In Sports: Squires hit road against Vikings in defensive slog. **Page B1**

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Wabash Plain Dealer

THURSDAY
DECEMBER 12, 2019

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Shining light on Wabash County since 1859.



Pulse of Wabash

Wabash Plain Dealer's new website now available

Check out our new website at www.wabashplaindealer.com and let us know what you think. Stories older than a few weeks are not yet available but will be soon. If you had an account on our previous site, you will need to create a new account. If you registered with the same email address we will be able to locate your previous subscription as well. Once registered, you can also verify your subscription. Please contact web support@wabashplaindealer.com with any questions. Thank you!

Wabash Plain Dealer's new office now open

The Wabash Plain Dealer's new office is now open on the second floor at 99 W. Canal St.

'Paint Like Bob Ross' at the NMPL

A "Paint Like Bob Ross" class, a "Poinsettias" session, will take place from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14 at the North Manchester Public Library. This class requires registration and a $20 materials fee upon registering. Space is limited. Register at the front desk or call 260-982-4773.

Downtown businesses to extend hours on select dates

Participating shops will be open until 7 p.m. on the following dates: Dec. 12, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20 and 21.

Red Cross blood donation opportunity set for Dec. 12

The Red Cross has scheduled a blood donation opportunity from noon to 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 12, at the Manchester Church of the Brethren, 1306 Beckley St., North Manchester.

Charley Creek Gardens to host 10th Annual Yule Time Stroll

Charley Creek Gardens will host its 10th Annual Yule Time Stroll, open to the public from 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13 to Monday, Dec. 23 at 551 N. Miami St. This event is free and open to the public. Parking

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The Oak Ridge Boys to bring a 'Down Home Christmas'

PHOTOS PROVIDED

TOUR: The Oak Ridge Boys' Down Home Christmas Tour is set to take the Ford Theater stage at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14.

Group once again performing holiday show in Wabash this weekend

BY ROB BURGESS
rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com

They have won multiple awards. They've been inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame. And, this weekend, The Oak Ridge Boys are returning to Wabash to bring their holiday show to the Honeywell Center.

The Oak Ridge Boys' Down Home Christmas Tour is set to take the Ford Theater stage at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14. Doors open at approximately 6:45 p.m. Ticket prices are $35, $45 and $54 with limited premium seats at $75. Tickets are available for purchase via HoneywellCenter.org/oak-ridge-boys or by calling the Honeywell Foundation box office at 260-563-1102.

In a recent phone interview with the Plain Dealer, the quartet's bass singer, Richard Sterban, took the time to talk about their storied career, their new album and their annual Christmas tour.



GROUP: The group has sold over 41 million albums; won Grammy, Gospel Music Association (GMA) Dove, Country Music Association (CMA) and Academy of Country Music (ACM) awards; and traveled the world many times over.

Origin story

The group has sold over 41 million albums; won Grammy, Gospel Music Association (GMA) Dove, Country Music Association (CMA) and Academy of Country Music (ACM) awards; and traveled the world many times over.

But, long before any of that happened, there was a group called Wally Fowler and the Georgia Clodhoppers, which started in 1943 in Knoxville, Tennessee.

"I think our history is a big part of our longevity," said Sterban. "I don't think there's an act in the business that brings more history with them when they walk on stage than The Oak Ridge Boys."

During World War II, Wally Fowler and the Georgia Clodhoppers had security clearances to travel to Oak Ridge, Tennessee to perform at the nearby nuclear research facility.

"It was top secret stuff. They could not leave for security reasons," said Sterban.

As a result, the group then became known as The Oak Ridge Quartet. That incarnation performed until the late 1950s at venues including the Grand Old Opry. They then disbanded and were reorganized as The Oak Ridge Boys to avoid confusion with the original group.

And that was still almost a decade before any of the current members of the group joined. William Lee Golden, on baritone, was the first current member to become an Oak Ridge Boy in 1965. He was followed the next year by Duane Allen, on lead. Sterban followed in 1972. And, Joe Bonsall, on tenor, rounded out the quartet in 1973.

Sterban said even after all these years they still ride on the same bus together.

"We love doing what we do," said Sterban. "I think the relationship that exists between the four of us is very special. Very rarely do you see a group of guys together for almost 50 years and they're able to stay together. I think each guy in our group is different. Each guy brings something

See **SHOW** / Page A2

Manchester offers Pharmacy Camp for high school students

The deadline to register is May 1, 2020

BY ANNE GREGORY

Those who will be high school juniors or seniors in the fall of 2020 who are considering pharmacy as a career are invited to attend Manchester University Pharmacy Camp from July 7 to 10, 2020.

Campers will do hands-on pharmacy activities, attend a mini-lecture series, take part in team-building exercises and visit settings where pharmacists work.

Pharmacy professionals from Manchester will share how the profession fits into the broader field of health care and offer advice about preparing for a pre-pharmacy program in college.

Sessions will be on both the North Manchester and Fort Wayne campuses of Manchester University. Overnight accommodations will be in North Manchester, and travel between campuses is provided.

To register, go to www.manchester.edu/pharmacy camp. The deadline to register is May 1, 2020.

To be eligible, a student must have a 3.0 high school GPA at the time of application.

The cost is $200, which includes staying in a college residence hall, a camp T-shirt and social events, including a Fort Wayne TinCaps baseball game.

Those attending Pharmacy Camp as rising high school seniors are eligible for a Manchester University undergraduate Visit Scholarship, which awards $500 annually.

For questions regarding the camp, email pharmacy@manchester.edu.

The camp is sponsored in part by Parkview Health.

Anne Gregory is the assistant director of media relations in the Office of Strategic Communications at Manchester University.

Second Harvest tailgate planned for Friday

There is a limit of three families per vehicle

BY ROB BURGESS
rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com

Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana will provide food for families in need at a tailgate distribution from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13 at the Dallas L. Winchester Senior Center, Living Well in Wabash County, 239 Bond St.

Participants must enter the drive-through line from the Hill Street entrance of the city park. The distribution is while supplies last, and there is a limit of three families per vehicle.

In response to a Plain Dealer request, Jackson Eflin, marketing coordinator, stated the total number of Wabash County residents served for 2019 as of November was 5,086 families and 11,250 people. The totals for 2018 were 3,821 families and 12,196 people. The totals for 2017 were 4,446 families and 14,384 people.

"We're averaging around 400 families per event," stated Eflin.

No tailgate distributions will take place when windchill is reported to be below 0 degrees, or the heat index is reported to be 100 degrees.

"The items received at a tailgate event are meant to be supplemental items only. They are not meant to be complete meals. Fresh fruits and vegetables are often provided," stated Eflin.

Upcoming dates

Eflin stated the following 2020 dates have been planned for tailgates at the Dallas L. Winchester Senior Center:

- Friday, Jan. 10, 2020
- Friday, Feb. 14, 2020
- Friday, March 13, 2020
- Thursday, April 9, 2020
- Tuesday, May 5, 2020

See **TAILGATE** / Page A2

WCPL plans Holiday Open House

Event set for Wednesday, Dec. 18

STAFF REPORT

The Wabash Carnegie Public Library (WCPL) has planned their Holiday Open House from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 18, according to a press release.

The all-ages event will feature snacks, crafts, games, photo opportunities, carolers and more.

"Join us for a Victorian Christmas celebration, with a twist," stated the release.

There will also be a sensory room available "designed with the input of a few special kids" featuring dimmed lights, sensory activities, iPads and comfortable seating "for anyone who might need a little peace and quiet in the middle of a noisy, chaotic celebration."

"We want every member of your family to enjoy this special night," stated the release.

Register on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/events/281696909393826/.

Parents of girl who fell to her death sue cruise company

SOUTH BEND (AP) — The Indiana parents of a toddler who fell to her death out of an open cruise ship window in Puerto Rico filed a lawsuit Wednesday against Royal Caribbean Cruises, accusing the company of negligence by allowing the window to be opened.

Chloe Wiegand fell to her death in July after her grandfather lifted her to the window on Royal Caribbean's Freedom of the Seas ship while the vessel docked. She would have turned 2 this week.

"We should be celebrating with presents and a birthday cake, but instead we are talking about her death," Chloe's mother, Kim Wiegand of Granger, Indiana, told reporters at a news conference in nearby South Bend.

She said she spends time with her daughter's urn every night.

Chloe's grandfather, Salvatore Anello, has been charged in Puerto Rico with negligent homicide. He insists he's colorblind and didn't know the 11th floor window in the children's play area was open. He said he believed he was lifting Chloe so that she could bang on the glass like at a hockey game.

The lawsuit says the company violated industry standards by failing to provide reasonably safe windows in an area where children play on the ship.

The wrongful death lawsuit was filed in U.S. District Court in Miami. It seeks an unspecified financial award. A Royal Caribbean spokesman said the company had no comment on the lawsuit.

"We all sit here broken," Anello said Wednesday. "But our family is strong and we will stay strong together."

Anello is due in a Puerto Rico court on Dec. 17.

SHOW

Continued from A1

different to the table."

But, before Sterban made the fateful decision to join the group in the first place, he had decided to leave his job singing with arguably the biggest star in the world.

Leaving Elvis

For about two years before joining The Oak Ridge Boys, Sterban sang in a group called J. D. Sumner and the Stamps Quartet.

It was at that time that they were recruited to sing backup for Elvis Presley.

"Back then, Elvis was the biggest star in the world, there's no doubt about it. No question," said Sterban. "And to be a part of his tour was very, very exciting. It was. I have some very fond memories of the times I spent with Elvis. I got to know Elvis just a little bit and it was a very, very special time in my life."

One day, Sterban received a phone call from Golden, who told him their bass singer was leaving. He wanted to know if Sterban would take the job.

"Here I was apparently at the top of the world singing with Elvis, but I had to make a decision," said Sterban. "At the same time, I was a big fan of the Oak Ridge Boys. I listened to their records. I loved the music that they were doing. I believed that the group had a great deal of potential. I wanted to be a part of it."

So, Sterban decided to leave the group and join The Oak Ridge Boys. He said not everyone was supportive of his choice.

"Back then, a lot of people questioned my decision. 'How could you do that? How could you leave Elvis and join The Oak Ridge Boys?' But I believed I was doing the right thing. I followed my heart," he said. "And the last 48 years so many great things have happened to me."

A talk with Johnny Cash

Times were lean after Sterban made the move to The Oak Ridge Boys. They caught a break when they were hired by Johnny Cash to open some shows for him.

That was fortuitous for the band in more ways than one.

"There would not be an Oak Ridge Boys today if not for Johnny Cash," said Sterban. "He kind of helped us keep afloat because we were struggling at the time. … He always helped us financially. He always paid us more money than the contract called for. He always gave us money up and above what we were supposed to get paid. … But, more than his financial help were his words of encouragement."

After a gig in Las Vegas one night, the group was particularly distraught. They had no other dates booked after that.

"We didn't know how we were going to stay together, how we were going to be able to keep it going," said Sterban.

Sterban said Cash sensed their foul mood and called them up to his hotel room one afternoon.

"He said, 'Sit down, fellas, I want to talk to you. I can tell you guys are discouraged. I can tell your heads are hanging. And you're worried about your future, but I can also tell there's something very special about you guys. I want to tell you you've got to find a way to stay together,.'" said Sterban.

Sterban said Cash said he knew they were thinking about quitting.

"He said, 'Listen to me. I want you to find a way to stay together. Do whatever it takes. I will help you. … Stay together. I promise you if you find a way to stay together good things are going to start happening to you guys. But you've got to hang in there, I will help you all I can, but it's up to you guys. You've got to be determined to stay together,'" he said.

Sterban said from that moment on they were on a mission to succeed.

"We walked out of that room, and instead of our heads hanging our heads were up high," said Sterban. "We looked up at each other and said, 'Wow. If Johnny Cash thinks we can make it, we are going to make it.' We did manage to stay together."

Sterban said soon after that they met their manager and signed their first recording contract.

Their paths crossed again a few years later in 1978 when they won their first CMA award for Vocal Group of the Year.

"Johnny Cash was hosting the show and when they announced our name we ran up on the stage and instead of going to the podium that was located on stage left to accept our award we went to stage right where Johnny Cash was standing … and we all ran up to him and we hugged our neck," said Sterban. "He said, 'see, fellas, I told you so.'"

Sterban said he gives the same advice to younger artists who ask him how to succeed. He said you have to remain focused and resolute

"You had better make sure this is really what you want to do. Then after you make that decision. Then you have to stay determined. You have to set a goal out there. You have got to get focused on your goal. You have to allow nothing to interfere with you accomplishing your goal. You have to work on your craft every chance that you can get," he said. "If you're always the best you can be, good things will happen to you," he said.

Christmas albums and tours

The Oak Ridge Boys have become famous for their Christmas albums and tours. The current string of Christmas shows is their 30th annual such tour. And their most recent album, "Down Home Christmas," is their eighth Christmas album.

Sterban said incorporating the songs from their new album into their set required extra rehearsals.

"Since about the middle of September, we've been rehearsing Christmas music. We've been working very hard to make this a great show," he said.

Sterban said the show they are bringing to Wabash will be "almost two shows for the price of one."

"Quite often, when people find out we're bringing our Christmas show almost always the next question is, 'Even though it's a Christmas show, will we still hear "Elvira"?' And the answer to that question is, 'Yes, you will. You will hear me do, 'Giddy up, oom poppa, omm poppa, mow mow,'" he said.

Sterban said for the first 45 minutes of the show they will perform the regular hits their audience is hoping to hear. After an intermission, though, the Christmas portion begins, complete with a Santa Claus.

"We cover just about every aspect of Christmas," he said. "We sing about the romantic side of Christmas. The fun side of Christmas."

Sterban said after Santa Claus exits, they start the "Rocking Chair Segment." He said this consists of them sitting in Cracker Barrel rocking chairs on stage and telling stories and singing about Christmas.

"It's a very down-home part of the show. It gives the audience the chance to get to know the four Oak Ridge Boys just a little bit better. In recent years it's become one of the most requested parts of the show," he said. "We close out with the songs that talk about the real, true meaning of Christmas and the reason we celebrate Christmas to begin with. And, of course, we know, that is the birth of Jesus. And we talk about how important that is, especially in this day and age in which we live. So we end the concert with a very spiritual, sacred note."

TAILGATE

Continued from A1

How to help

This Second Harvest Tailgate is a collaborative effort between Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana, The Community Foundation of Wabash County and Living Well in Wabash County.

"We love having volunteers at tailgates and at our warehouse, where people can sort produce, clean and help out around the office, among other tasks," stated Eflin. "Tailgates are not possible without the help of dedicated volunteers."

Donations can be made online http://curehunger.org/get-involved/donate/ as well as mailed in to 6621 N. Old Indiana 3, Muncie.

To learn how you can help, contact Ryan Wagner at 260-563-4475.

THE ROXY MOVIE THEATER
Showtimes for Thursday, December 12-Thursday, December 19
All showtimes have Closed Captioning available.

Jumanji: The Next Level in 2D (PG13)
Fri: 6:50, 7:15 • Sat- Sun: 12:55, 4:25, 6:50, 7:15
Mon: 6:50, 7:15 • Tues: 7:15
Wed: 6:50, 7:15 • Thurs: 6:55

Jumanji: The Next Level in RealD 3D (PG13)
Fri: 9:35 • Sat: 3:45, 9:35 • Sun: 3:45

Star Wars: Episode IX- The Rise of Skywalker in 2D (PG13)
Thurs: 6:15

Star Wars: Episode IX- The Rise of Skywalker in RealD 3D (PG13))
Thurs: 6:25

Midway (PG13)
Fri: 10:05 • Sat: 1:25, 10:05 • Sun: 1:25 • Tues: 6:50

Knives Out (PG13)
Fri: 6:30, 9:45 • Sat: 1:35, 3:35, 6:30, 9:45
Sun: 1:35, 3:35, 6:30 • Mon- Wed: 6:30
Thurs: 6:35

A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood (PG)
Fri: 7:05, 9:25 • Sat: 1:05, 4:35, 7:05, 9:25
Sun: 1:05, 4:35, 7:05 • Mon- Wed: 7:05

Frozen II in 2D (PG)
Fri: 6:40, 9:15 • Sat: 1:15, 4:05, 6:40, 9:15
Sun: 1:15, 4:05, 6:40 • Mon- Wed: 6:40

For more information please call
765-460-5322
or visit us online at www.roxyperu.com
Located at 100 Roxy Lane, North edge of Peru

5-Day Weather Summary

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Rain & Snow Possible	Mostly Cloudy	Scattered Snow
42 / 31	40 / 32	38 / 21	26 / 16	30 / 22

Sun and Moon

Today's sunset ..... 5:20 p.m.
Tomorrow's sunrise ..... 8:03 a.m.

Full	Last	New	First
12/12	12/18	12/26	1/2

Detailed Local Outlook

Today we will see mostly cloudy skies, high of 42°, humidity of 54%. South southeast wind 9 to 14 mph. Expect partly cloudy skies tonight, overnight low of 31°. South wind 7 to 11 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 24°. Friday, skies will be mostly cloudy, high of 40°, humidity of 76%.

Friend displaced due to gentrification

Harriette Cole
Sense & Sensitivity



DEAR HARRIETTE: A friend of mine got displaced recently. Her neighborhood is being gentrified, and her apartment building was sold. She had no choice but to move – even though she had lived there for more than 20 years. It was awful. She told me that she was moving out west, but I realize I have no idea where she is. I have tried to reach her, but I've only gotten to her through social media. We used to talk periodically. I am worried that she is not doing well. What do I do? – Displaced Friend

DEAR DISPLACED FRIEND: Sadly, when people are displaced, like your friend, life can get tough – and fast. So-called "gentrification" does boost rental rates and often improves the businesses, safety and overall appeal of a neighborhood. The downside is that often, many people and businesses lose the ability to stay in the neighborhood they love.

Your friend may not be ready to talk to you, which is why she is somewhat off the grid. That doesn't mean that you should stop reaching out. The good news about social media is that at least she can see that you are contacting her to let her know that you care and that you want to be in touch with her. Rather than pressuring her to respond to you, just send her positive messages that let her know she is on your mind.

DEAR HARRIETTE: My grandmother is racist. I used to be able to ignore it just to make peace with the family, but now I am engaged to a Mexican man. My grandmother has said all kinds of racist things to or near my fiance. Like, she muttered under her breath once that she wondered whether he was here legally, even though she knows that he was born here. (His parents were born in Mexico.) Another time, she and my aunt started talking about another ethnic group, saying that they are stealing "our jobs." It was obvious that they were picking at my fiance, but I wasn't sure what to say.

How can I address this with my grandmother? If she doesn't stop, my fiance asked that we not invite her to our wedding. She is rude, and we don't want her or her daughter, my aunt, to offend his relatives. – Racist Grandma

DEAR RACIST GRANDMA: Talk to your parents first to let them know your concerns. Ask for their support. Then call a meeting with your grandmother, your aunt and your parents. Be direct about your concerns. Let them know that you do not appreciate the negative, racist comments that they have been making. Remind them that you are about to marry the man you love, and you need them to respect him and his family; therefore, they need to keep their comments to themselves.

Speak directly to your grandmother and aunt, and share with them the things that offended you. Ask them to stop. If they refuse, let them know that you will not be inviting them to your wedding because they are being disrespectful to the man who is going to become your husband.

Know that this a huge step to take. It may mean that your family will be divided if you cannot come to terms. But you have every right to expect your family to treat your soon-to-be husband with love and kindness.

Harriette Cole is a lifestylist and founder of DREAMLEAPERS, an initiative to help people access and activate their dreams. You can send questions to askharriette @harriettecole.com or c/o Andrews McMeel Syndication, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, MO 64106.

READERS' CHOICE REPORTS

TUESDAY'S LOTTERIES

Cash 5
03-12-14-19-32
Estimated jackpot: $186,000
Cash4Life
21-32-36-39-53, Cash Ball: 1
Daily Three-Midday
8-6-8, SB: 4
Daily Three-Evening
4-6-3, SB: 6
Daily Four-Midday
5-6-4-1, SB: 4
Daily Four-Evening
5-4-4-9, SB: 6
Mega Millions
18-31-46-54-61, Mega Ball: 25, Megaplier: 2
Estimated jackpot: $314 million
Powerball
Estimated jackpot: $140 million

WEDNESDAY'S METALS

Aluminum	.79
Copper	2.75
Lead	.86
Zinc	1.01
Gold	1,472.94
Silver	16.85
Platinum	939.41

AREA GRAIN

Estimated grain prices Wednesday at Indianapolis-area elevators: Corn: $3.89. Soybeans: $8.88.

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Obituaries

A Holiday Invitation
Annual Christmas Cantata
First United Methodist Church
Sunday, Dec. 15 3 pm and 7 pm
Choir and orchestra with harp prelude 30 minutes prior to each performance
Refreshments following.



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GRANDSTAFF HENTGEN
Wabash Chapel: Manchester Ave. • 260-563-8879
Bender Chapel, North Manchester • 260-982-4393
Roann Chapel • 765-833-5591
Memorial Lawns Cemetery, Wabash • 260-563-0421
www.grandstaff-hentgen.com

Billy Eugene Brandenburg

March 19, 1934 - Dec. 11, 2019



Billy Eugene Brandenburg, 85, of North Manchester, Indiana, died at 4 a.m., Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2019 at Bickford Cottage in Wabash. He was born March 19, 1934 in Wabash County, Indiana to Dorsey and Eunice (Rautenkranz) Brandenburg.

Billy was a 1952 Chester High School graduate. He married Connie Hileman at the Manchester First Brethren Church on Sept. 11, 1955. He was a retired farmer, a general carpenter, drove a school bus for the Manchester Community Schools, worked winters at the Wabash County Farm Bureau Co-op Lumber Yard, and also worked at the Sycamore Golf Course. He enjoyed blue grass music, trips to Renfro Valley and Shipshewana, going to steam engine shows, and was an all around handy man. He also enjoyed being outdoors and spending time with his family.

He is survived by his wife, Connie Brandenburg of North Manchester, 3 children, Tammy Brandenburg of North Manchester, Cris Brandenburg of Lafayette, Indiana, and Patrick (Haley) Brandenburg of North Manchester, 4 grandchildren, Eli Brandenburg of Lafayette, Allie (Jered) Price of Idaville, Indiana, Rachel Brandenburg of Valparaiso, Indiana, and Leiah Brandenburg of Indianapolis, Indiana, and his sister, Betty Roser of Wabash. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Funeral services will be 10:30 a.m. Monday, Dec. 16, 2019 at Grandstaff-Hentgen Bender Chapel, 207 W. Main St., North Manchester, with David Phillips officiating. Burial will be in Oaklawn Cemetery, North Manchester. Friends may call 2 - 5 p.m. Sunday, at the funeral home.

Preferred memorial is Bickford Cottage.

The memorial guest book for Billy may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

How streaming, diversity, #MeToo shaped TV decade of change

BY LYNN ELBER
AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES — "Game of Thrones" was both an unprecedented achievement and old-school role model in the TV decade that's rolling its final credits.

Installments of the elaborately produced hit were doled out one at a time by an established outlet, premium cable channel HBO. That was standard TV operating procedure until, suddenly, it wasn't. The new era arrived in 2013 when a full season's worth of "House of Cards" popped up amid Netflix's on-demand movies and old TV shows.

The drama's unexpected home appeared simply to be an option to the 500-channel universe born in the 1990s. But "House of Cards" foreshadowed a streaming gold rush and volume of programming dubbed Peak TV in 2015 – and with no drop in altitude in sight.

The result: Nothing is the same, whether it's how much television we consume; how and where we do it; who gets to make it, and the level of respect given the creatively emboldened small screen. We don't just watch TV, we binge it until we're bleary-eyed if not sated. We still change channels with a remote control, but more often we're logging in to watch shows on our phones or other devices and on our schedules, not network-dictated appointment TV.

We're couch potatoes and office and car and everywhere potatoes.

A comic strip, "Zits," recently summed up the current reality in three panels. "What's on?" a father asks his teenage son, who's sitting cross-legged in front of a TV set and is bracketed by a smart phone on one side and a laptop on the other. "Everything ever videotaped, filmed, recorded, photographed or otherwise documented whenever I want to watch it," the teen answers, nonchalantly tossing popcorn into his mouth.

"I miss television," the downcast dad tells his wife.

All hail streaming

Generational nostalgia aside, consumers have embraced the change in their media world, said Robert Thompson, director of Syracuse University's Bleier Center for Television & Popular Culture.

"This was the decade that streaming became for many, many people the dominant way in which they watch television," said Thompson. It's a rapid shift that bears little relation to the previous entertainment industry revolution, cable TV.

Only about a quarter of U.S. homes had cable in 1980 despite its availability since the mid-20th century. While growth finally exploded in the '80's, it wasn't until the tail end of the 1990s and the arrival of HBO's "The Sopranos" and "Sex and the City" that premium cable received critical praise and honors, Thompson said.

In contrast, it took less than a decade for leader Netflix to skyrocket from about 12 million U.S. subscribers at the decade's start to 60 million this year and 158 million worldwide. The streamer reportedly lavished $15 billion on programming for 2019 alone, and earned buzz with series including "The Crown," "Stranger Things," and "Orange is the New Black."

Even major films, among them Martin Scorsese's "The Irishman," are making themselves at home on Netflix while still in theaters.

Others in the fray include Hulu and Amazon Prime Video, although "streaming wars" became the aggressive phrase applied to the increasingly competitive marketplace. With newly emboldened (and sometimes mega-expanded) media companies intent on getting a piece of the streaming action, there was a growth surge that won't abate in the new decade.

Apple TV Plus launched Nov. 1 with Oprah Winfrey and Steven Spielberg among its first wave of producers, and was quickly followed by Disney Plus. The latter has a storehouse of Disney movies and TV shows to draw on, along with acquired properties from Marvel Entertainment and Lucasfilm and its "Star Wars" franchise.

Among the other services set for 2020: Peacock from NBCUniversal; Quibi, run by ex-Disney chairman Jeffrey Katzenberg and former eBay head Meg Whitman, and HBO Max, is counting on HBO, TBS and the Warner Bros. studio assets acquired by parent company AT&T to lure subscribers.

While cord-cutting became a quest for viewers seeking to shed hefty cable bills, there is still a price tag for the gusher of riches, as much as $14.99 monthly for HBO Max alone.

A bonus for viewers as they sort through the competing options: More programming doesn't just mean more of the same.

Variety store

If retailers can provide every type of yogurt known to humanity, why can't TV take the same eclectic approach? It has in the past 10 years, as the increasing demand for content and the growth of niche programming created opportunities for diverse and candid voices. Ongoing efforts by advocacy groups also contributed to the gradual but unmistakable shift.

Donald Glover illustrates the before and after. The future multi-hyphenate writer, musician, actor and director had a respectable run as a cast member on the network sitcom "Community." Two years later, he was the creator and star of FX's "Atlanta," which drew raves for its innovative storytelling focused on African American characters.

Jill Soloway called on family experience to create the groundbreaking "Transparent," about a trans woman and how her decision to be open has a ripple effect on her children and their circle.

Ryan Murphy, already established as a successful producer with "Nip/Tuck"and "Glee," exercised his clout to make FX's "Pose," set in the LGBTQ ballroom culture scene of the 1980s and '90s. Its star, Billy Porter, became the first openly gay man to win the best actor Emmy. Credit RuPaul and his "Drag Race," which arrived on the cusp of the previous decade and grew in popularity, for setting the table.

Even mainstream broadcasting expanded its field of vision, with ABC the first network in 20 years to air an Asian American family sitcom, "Fresh Off the Boat," ending this season. Nahnatchka Khan was its executive producer, one of the women who gained prominence behind the camera in a sector long dominated by men.

As producers, directors and writers, women put complex female characters in the center of the frame – a switch from the male antiheroes of "The Sopranos," "Breaking Bad" and other turn-of-the-century hits. With women taking the reins as storytellers, female characters became as varied and complex as their male counterparts and began to encompass a fuller view of the modern experience.

Lena Dunham's "Girls" presented more than cookie-cutter young women, both in body and spirit, and foreshadowed the rise of actresses whose talent demands more attention than their weight, including Aidy Bryant of "Saturday Night Live" and Chrissy Metz of "This Is Us."'

African American women took the spotlight in creator-star Issa Rae's "Insecure," while Jenji Kohan's "Orange is the New Black," featured characters notable for their ethnic, sexual and class diversity. Writer-actress Phoebe Waller-Bridge's "Fleabag" provided the decade's big finish with its bold sexuality, earning six Emmys last fall including top comedy.

Some established female producers further cemented their success. Shonda Rhimes added "Scandal" and "How to Get Away with Murder" to her body of work, with the latter's star, Viola Davis, becoming the first African American to win a best drama actress Emmy. Ava DuVernay, already a filmmaking force, spearheaded "When They See Us" and "Queen Sugar."'

Reese Witherspoon, adding producing to her portfolio, made good on her vow to bring strong female characters to the screen with the hit series "Big Little Lies" and "The Morning Show."

Statistics confirm the anecdotal evidence. Across all TV platforms in 2017-18, women accounted for a historic high of 31 percent of those working in key behind-the-scenes jobs including directors, writers and editors , according to research by San Diego State University's Center for the Study of Women in Television & Film.

Good, but not good enough, said Kirsten Schaffer, executive director of the advocacy group Women in Film, which joined with the Sundance Institute in 2017 to create and lead ReFrame, an initiative that works with companies and others to foster hiring of women across the media landscape.

"Our goal is to have the industry reflect the population of the United States," Schaffer said, and that's 51 percent female and 17 percent women of color.

While television moved toward better reflecting the world at large, it was forced to look inward as well.

#MeToo fallout

Revelations of sexual misconduct hit the TV industry hard and with more lasting effect than any other sector of Hollywood, even compared to producer Harvey Weinstein's fall from moviemaking heights.

Two of media's top powerbrokers were brought down in the #MeToo era. Les Moonves was ousted in 2018 as CBS CEO after an outside investigation of abuse claims, with Moonves denying any non-consensual sexual relations. Roger Ailes, who built Rupert Murdoch's Fox News Channel into both a lucrative operation and major force in American politics, was forced out in the wake of sexual harassment claims.

Harassment claims also ended the Fox News career of host Bill O'Reilly, who called it a "hit job."

Matt Lauer ("Today"), Charlie Rose ("CBS This Morning") and PBS host Tavis Smiley were wiped away from TV screens for alleged misbehavior of varying types and their denials notwithstanding. "60 Minutes" executive producer Jeff Fager, a CBS News veteran, denied the misconduct claims that got him fired.

Top-tier actors and a famed comedian lost their jobs, including Jeffrey Tambor of "Transparent," Kevin Spacey of "House of Cards" and Louis C.K., whose TV projects included "Louie," which he starred in and produced. Tambor and Spacey rebutted the misconduct allegations, Louis C.K. apologized.

The reverberations continue. NBC repeatedly has been confronted by Ronan Farrow's claim that he was prevented from breaking the Weinstein story on its airwaves, which the network denies, while CBS was criticized for renewing "Bull" despite actress Eliza Dushku's claim that she was dropped for complaining that the show's star, Michael Weatherly, made crude comments about her on set.

Dushku received a reported $9.5 million settlement under its then-CEO – Les Moonves.

Fed leaves low rates alone and foresees no moves in 2020

BY CHRISTOPHER RUGABER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON — The Federal Reserve left its benchmark interest rate alone Wednesday and signaled that it expects to keep low rates unchanged through next year.

The Fed's decision follows three rate cuts earlier this year. It reflects its view that the U.S. economy has so far withstood the U.S.-China trade war and a global slump and remains generally healthy. Its benchmark rate – which influences many consumer and business loans – will remain in a low range of 1.5 percent to 1.75 percent

In a sign of its confidence about the economy, the Fed's latest policy statement dropped a phrase it had previously used that referred to "uncertainties" surrounding the economic outlook. That suggests that the Fed may be less worried about the impact of the U.S.-China trade war or overseas developments.

Financial markets moved slightly up soon after the Fed issued its statement.

For now, the Fed appears inclined to leave rates alone through 2020, an election year. But many analysts note that the economy faces risks from the trade conflicts, a global slowdown and a potentially disruptive Brexit and say the Fed may feel compelled to cut rates at least once next year.

Persistently low inflation with very low unemployment has led many Fed officials to conclude that rates can remain lower for much longer than they thought without spurring higher prices. Low rates help consumers and businesses afford to borrow and spend. Still, savers have struggled to find returns outside the stock market that can keep them ahead of inflation.

Speaking at a news conference Wednesday, Chairman Jerome Powell suggested that even with the pace of hiring solid and unemployment low, he thinks the Fed can further strengthen the job market through a low-rate – or "accommodative" – policy.

"Even though we are at 3 ½ percent unemployment, there is actually more slack out there in a sense," Powell said. "And the risks of using accommodative monetary policy, our tool, to explore that, are relatively low."

In updated forecasts the Fed issued Wednesday, no officials penciled in a rate cut in 2020. Instead, four Fed officials said they expected a rate increase next year. The remaining 13 officials projected no change to rates.

At his news conference, Powell made clear that he thinks higher rates are unlikely anytime soon.

"In order to move rates up," he said, "I would want to see inflation that is persistent, that is significant, before raising rates to address inflation concerns. That is my view."

Powell has said that this year's rate cuts have helped lower mortgage rates and spurred growth in home purchases. Auto sales have also remained healthy as more Americans have borrowed to buy cars.

Facebook rebuffs U.S. AG over access to encrypted messages

BY MATT O'BRIEN
AP Technology Writer

Facebook is rebuffing efforts by U.S. Attorney General William Barr to give authorities a way to read encrypted messages.

The heads of Facebook-owned WhatsApp and Messenger services told Barr and his U.K. and Australian counterparts that Facebook is moving forward with plans to enable end-to-end encryption on all of its messaging services. End-to-end encryption locks up messages so that not even Facebook can read their contents.

WhatsApp already uses end-to-end encryption. Facebook plans to extend that protection to Messenger and Instagram Direct.

Barr and other officials had asked the company in October to hold off. In a letter to Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg, they insisted that precluding access by law enforcement could hinder efforts to prevent or investigate crimes. The letter repeatedly emphasized the dangers of child sexual exploitation to justify their stance.

Barr reiterated his concerns in a speech Tuesday, calling the encryption fight "one of our highest priorities" and describing "an increasing number of horror stories about how people are dying, or being molested or whatever, but we cannot get in."

Law enforcement has long sought a way to read encrypted messages that's analogous to wiretaps for phone calls. Security experts, however, say that giving police such access makes messaging insecure for everyone by creating vulnerabilities that others can exploit.

In Facebook's response Monday to Barr and other authorities, Will Cathcart, head of WhatsApp, and Stan Chudnovsky, head of Messenger, said creating such a "backdoor" for law enforcement "would be a gift to criminals, hackers and repressive regimes, creating a way for them to enter our systems and leaving every person on our platforms more vulnerable to real life harm."

Opinion

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Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 123 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 123 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to news@wabashplaindealer.com with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.

inspiration corner

Daily scripture

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4:16

The case for impeachment

The House of Representatives is moving toward a momentous decision about whether to impeach a president for only the third time in U.S. history. The charges brought against President Trump by the House Judiciary Committee on Tuesday are clear: that he abused his office in an attempt to induce Ukraine's new president to launch politicized investigations that would benefit Trump's reelection campaign, and that he willfully obstructed the subsequent congressional investigation.

Because of that unprecedented stonewalling, and because House Democrats have chosen to rush the impeachment process, the inquiry has failed to collect important testimony and documentary evidence that might strengthen the case against the president. Nevertheless, it is our view that more than enough proof exists for the House to impeach Trump for abuse of power and obstruction of Congress, based on his own actions and the testimony of the 17 present and former administration officials who courageously appeared before the House Intelligence Committee.

According to testimony by State Department officials, a top priority of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky following his election in April was obtaining a meeting with Trump at the White House. Trump, either directly or through his personal lawyer Rudolph W. Giuliani, made the meeting contingent on an announcement by Zelensky of investigations into charges that Ukraine intervened in the 2016 presidential election, and that former vice president Joe Biden sought the dismissal of a Ukrainian prosecutor to aid his son Hunter, who served on the board of a Ukrainian gas company.

Several State Department and National Security Council officials testified that there was no evidence to support either allegation. One, former NSC senior director Fiona Hill, said the election interference claim was a "fictional narrative" peddled by Russian intelligence agencies.

Trump's actions were an abuse of his presidential powers. He used his official authority – the granting of an Oval Office meeting – to obtain a personal benefit: mud he could sling at a likely opponent in the 2020 election.

Trump set the stage for the trade-off on May 23, when during a White House meeting with a U.S. delegation that had attended Zelensky's inauguration, he rejected appeals to meet Zelensky and instead instructed the officials present to "talk to Rudy." For months, Giuliani had been publicly calling for the Biden and 2016 election investigations. Two State Department officials, Kurt Volker and Gordon Sondland, subsequently communicated extensively with Giuliani and Ukrainian officials in an effort to broker the quid pro quo, both before and after a July 25 phone call between Trump and Zelensky.

Just before that phone call, Sondland spoke to Trump, then called Volker. Volker then texted this message to Andriy Yermak, a top aide to Zelensky: "Heard from White House – assuming President Z convinces trump he will investigate/'get to the bottom of what happened' in 2016, we will nail down date for visit to Washington. Good luck!"

The rough transcript of the phone call shows that Zelensky got the message. At the end of it, he thanked Trump for a previous invitation to Washington, then said, "I also want to ensure you that we will ... work on the investigation" of 2016 and Biden, which Trump had raised as "a favor." Trump responded: "Good. Well, thank you very much and I appreciate that. I will tell Rudy and Attorney General Barr to call. Thank you. Whenever you would like to come to the White House. … Give us a date and we'll work that out."

As negotiations continued in the following weeks, Giuliani demanded that Zelensky make a public statement announcing the investigations in order to obtain a meeting date. Trump also insisted in another phone call with Sondland that Zelensky "go to a microphone." Giuliani rejected a draft Ukrainian statement that did not specifically mention the Biden-linked gas company, Burisma, and the 2016 election.

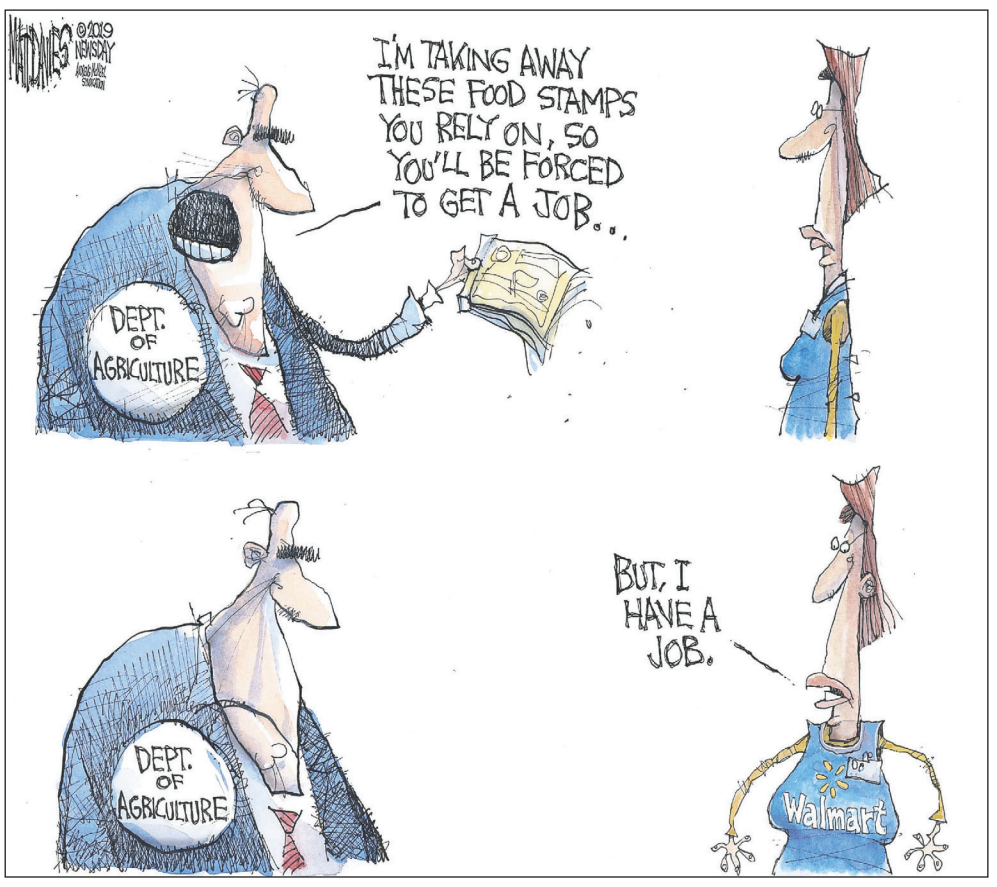
An Aug. 10 text from Yermak to Sondland was explicit about the trade-off: "Once we have a date, will call for a press briefing, announce upcoming visit and outlining vision for the reboot of US-UKRAINE relationship, including among other things Burisma and election meddling investigations."

The Ukrainians eventually told Volker they were not comfortable making a statement that directly referenced U.S. domestic matters. Zelensky never announced the investigations – and he has yet to visit the White House.

The Office of Management and Budget placed a hold on $391 million in military aid to Ukraine on July 12 on Trump's orders, and it remained in place until Sept. 11, long after an interagency review unanimously concluded it should be released. State and Defense Department officials testified that they were never given an explanation for the hold, and there is no direct testimony about the president's motive. But four senior officials, including Sondland, two top diplomats at the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv and the senior official for Europe at the National Security Council, concluded that the aid was linked to the demand for investigations.

More to the point, Sondland told both Yermak and Zelensky that the aid would not be released unless the investigations were announced. He spoke to Zelensky after a phone call with Trump. Contrary to Republican assertions, the Ukrainians learned of the hold on the aid early on; their first inquiry to the State Department came on July 25, the same day as the Trump-Zelensky phone call. They felt extreme pressure; the top U.S. diplomat in Kyiv, William B. Taylor Jr., described them as "very concerned" and "desperate."

A version of this editorial was first published in The Washington Post.



Pelosi may have signed a political death warrant for moderate Democrats in Trump districts

Marc A. Thiessen



With her announcement that Democrats will move forward and vote on articles of impeachment, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., may have signed a political death warrant for dozens of moderate Democrats elected in Trump districts.

Pelosi is speaker today because in 2018 Democrats were able to convince voters in 31 House districts Trump carried two years before to defect and vote for them. Democrats need these voters to stay in their column in 2020 if they are to hold onto the House and win back the White House.

But in key swing states, large majorities of these 2018 defectors now say they plan to back Trump again in 2020. The New York Times reported that "nearly two-thirds of voters in six battleground states who voted for President Trump in 2016 – but for Democratic congressional candidates in 2018 – say they intend to back the president against each of his top rivals." The Times also reported that in 2018, voters in these states cast their ballots "for Democratic congressional candidates by an average of six points, all but identical to their actual winning margins." That means these freshman Democrats already face an uphill battle to hold onto their seats.

Now, Pelosi is adding to their woes by forcing them to vote to recommend the removal of a president that voters in their districts say they plan to reelect. Already, she forced them to vote to authorize an impeachment inquiry, and all but two did so. But there is a world of difference between backing an impeachment inquiry and voting to impeach. Before the hearings began, swing-state voters said they supported the impeachment inquiry by a margin of 50 percent to 45 percent, but opposed impeaching and removing Trump by 53 percent to 43 percent. After weeks of wall-to-wall hearings, polls show that Democrats failed to move the needle in favor of impeachment and removal. Indeed, in Wisconsin, opposition to removal has nearly doubled. In other words, Democrats have failed to make their case.

By moving forward with impeachment anyway, Pelosi is putting her most vulnerable members in a terrible position. Split-ticket voting is already rare. The Washington Post reported in 2016 that that election "saw the highest percentage of straight-ticket voters in more than a century." And according to FiveThirtyEight, split-ticket voting hit a new low in 2018. Impeachment makes it even less likely that swing-state voters will split their tickets. Are voters really going cast ballots to give Trump four more years and also to reelect the Democratic House members who tried to take that decision out of their hands by impeaching him?

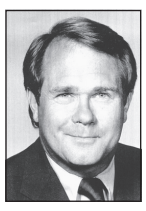
Voters in these Trump districts are already frustrated with their Democratic representatives. They won on promises to work with the president to address issues like health care, prescription drug prices, infrastructure and trade. None of that is getting done, thanks to Democrats' focus on impeachment. Indeed, there is speculation in the White House that the reason Pelosi has been slow-rolling the U.S.-Mexico-Canada (USMCA) free trade agreement Trump negotiated is not out of reluctance to give Trump a win, but because she needs it as leverage with her moderate members to get their votes for impeachment. "She's using USMCA to get the impeachment vote," Trump has said.

Pelosi isn't stupid. She would not have announced a vote on articles of impeachment if she didn't believe she had the votes. But while she can strong-arm the moderates in her caucus, she can't strong-arm the voters in their districts. Her decision to move forward with impeachment means that many of those 31 Democrats seem destined to lose in November. Apparently, that is a price she is willing to pay to placate her party's virulent anti-Trump base.

Follow Marc A. Thiessen on Twitter, @marcthiessen.

Let's tell the government what true 'cost' means

Craig Ladwig
Indiana Policy Review



The table turned suddenly a decade ago. One day Indiana state government served us, the next day we served it. It happened during a state Senate Appropriations Committee hearing when the chairman took a moment to explain to a young legislator how things were going to work.

The issue was repeal of the onerous and self-defeating inheritance tax. You can't go around abolishing taxes, the young man learned, without designating how the lost revenue can be replaced.

Lost revenue? Tell us what logic holds that an inheritance tax inefficiently and destructively applied not once but twice and then finally returned to taxpayers would be "lost"?

The new logic, that's what. The committee chairman, as member of our ruling class, was on the cutting edge of it.

Angelo Codevilla of the Claremont Institute has been writing about this recently. "Since 2016, the ruling class has left no doubt that it is not merely enacting chosen policies," says Codevilla. "It is expressing its identity, an identity that has grown and solidified over more than a half century, and that it is not capable of changing."

Now comes a Twitter message from an old friend, a former legislator whose credentials include actually keeping a term-limit promise. He links me to an article in "School Matters," a publication focused on public education in Indiana.

"Tax Caps Cost Schools Hundreds of Millions," the headline screams.

Cost?

There's that logic again, that ruling-class identity. This time it is applied to a column of Indiana school districts with the dollar amounts that have been ostensibly ripped from the backpacks of Indiana students.

Without going into the obvious need to redirect resources to classroom teachers and measurable learning, the presumption is that a percentage-based constitutional ceiling on how much of your property can be confiscated somehow costs innocent school children.

To accept that, you have to accept that local officeholders are powerless to readjust priorities or seek election based on a conviction that taxes in other categories could be raised in the interest of public education. Nor can you suggest there is no countervailing waste or inefficiency anywhere else, that there is nothing government does that it doesn't need to do, that is really none of its business.

That last, I have come to believe, is their point – that we should never fall into a discussion of what government should or should not be doing. For then we would learn the real cost of this barratry – that is, the loss of public confidence any official above the township level can be trusted with so much as a coin purse.

Craig Ladwig is editor of the quarterly Indiana Policy Review.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Thursday, Dec. 12, the 346th day of 2019. There are 19 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 12, 2000, George W. Bush became president-elect as a divided U.S. Supreme Court reversed a state court decision for recounts in Florida's contested election.

On this date:

In 1787, Pennsylvania became the second state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

In 1870, Joseph H. Rainey of South Carolina became the first black lawmaker sworn into the U.S. House of Representatives.

In 1913, authorities in Florence, Italy, announced that the "Mona Lisa," stolen from the Louvre Museum in Paris in 1911, had been recovered.

In 1915, singer-actor Frank Sinatra was born Francis Albert Sinatra in Hoboken, New Jersey.

In 1985, 248 American soldiers and eight crew members were killed when an Arrow Air charter crashed after takeoff from Gander, Newfoundland.

In 1995, by three votes, the Senate killed a constitutional amendment giving Congress authority to outlaw flag burning and other forms of desecration against Old Glory.

In 1997, Ilich Ramirez Sanchez, the international terrorist known as "Carlos the Jackal," went on trial in Paris on charges of killing two French investigators and a Lebanese national. (Ramirez was convicted and is serving a life prison sentence.)

Do-ahead desserts are a perfect holiday gift for the cook

BY LYNDA BALSLEV

Are you still unsure of what to make for a party dessert this season? Try this light and luscious semifreddo, topped with a compote of port-wine poached figs. Fragrant with orange and spice, it's reminiscent of English Christmas puddings and mulled wine.

A semifreddo is an elegant frozen Italian concoction of whipped cream and meringue, which, in this preparation, is flecked with toasted almonds and orange zest. Each bite is ethereal, melting on the tongue in a light and airy poof. For a little extra sweetness (it's Christmas after all), a shard of caramelized almond praline crowns the dessert.

The beauty of this recipe is that each component may be prepared at least a day in advance, so all that you need to do is assemble it when you are ready to serve, which is a perfect gift to the cook when entertaining.

Orange Almond Semifreddo With Port-Wine Poached Figs

Active Time: 1 hour and 15 minutes

Total Time: 1 hour and 15 minutes, plus cooling and freezing time

Yield: Serves 8

Semifreddo:

3/4 cup whole almonds
2 tablespoons plus 1/2 cup granulated sugar
1 teaspoon finely grated orange zest
Pinch of salt
3 large egg whites, room temperature
1 cup heavy cream, chilled
1 teaspoon orange liqueur, such as Cointreau
1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract

Figs Compote:

16 dried figs, stems removed, halved if large
3/4 cup port wine
1/4 cup brown sugar
1 (3-inch) cinnamon stick
2 tablespoons orange liqueur, such as Cointreau
Zest and juice of 1/2 orange

Praline:

3/4 cup granulated sugar
1/2 cup sliced almonds, lightly toasted
1/4 teaspoon sea salt

Prepare the semifreddo:

Line a 9-by-5-inch loaf pan with plastic, leaving a 3-inch overhang.

Place the almonds and the 2 tablespoons sugar in the bowl of a food processor. Pulse until finely ground. Add the orange zest and salt and pulse once or twice to blend.

Beat the egg whites in the bowl of an electric mixer until they begin to hold soft peaks. Add the 1/2 cup sugar, 1 tablespoon at a time, beating until the egg whites are glossy and hold stiff peaks. Transfer to a large bowl.

In a clean mixing bowl, beat the cream, orange liqueur and vanilla extract until soft peaks form. Gently fold the egg whites into the cream until no traces are visible. Gently fold the almonds into the egg whites until evenly distributed. Spoon into the prepared loaf pan and smooth the top. Cover tightly with plastic. Freeze at least 8 hours or overnight.

Prepare the figs:

Combine all of the compote ingredients in a heavy medium saucepan and bring to a boil over medium heat. Reduce the heat to medium-low and simmer, partially covered, until the figs are soft but still hold their shape, 15 to 20 minutes. Remove and cool completely in the liquid; discard the cinnamon stick. (Figs may be prepared up to 2 days in advance. Refrigerate until use. Bring to room temperature to serve.)

Prepare the praline:

Heat the sugar in a heavy small saucepan over medium heat until it melts, stirring occasionally with a wooden spoon. Continue to cook, stirring constantly, until sugar turns amber in color. Add the almonds and sea salt and stir quickly to coat. Pour onto a baking sheet lined with parchment and spread into a thin layer. Do not touch with your fingers. Cool completely. Break into small pieces.

Serve:

When ready to serve, remove the semifreddo from the loaf pan. Working quickly, cut in 3/4-inch slices and arrange on serving plates or shallow bowls. Spoon figs and a little juice over the semifreddo and garnish with praline shards. Serve immediately.



PROVIDED PHOTO BY LYNDA BALSLEV FOR TASTEFOOD

ZEST: A semifreddo is an elegant frozen Italian concoction of whipped cream and meringue, which, in this preparation, is flecked with toasted almonds and orange zest.



PROVIDED PHOTO

UPDATED: This updated version of banana bread is far healthier than many standard recipes, which are typically filled with added sugars, oils and refined grains.

Nutty whole grain banana bread

BY SHARON PALMER

Banana bread is a classic comfort food that takes full advantage of the tradition of reserving over-ripe bananas for a delicious treat. This updated version of banana bread is far healthier than many standard recipes, which are typically filled with added sugars, oils and refined grains.

Ingredients

3 ripe medium bananas, peeled, mashed
1/2 cup milk or soymilk, plain, unsweetened
1/4 cup vegetable oil
2 tablespoon chia seeds
1 teaspoon vanilla
1/4 cup brown sugar
1 1/4 cups whole wheat flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon baking powder
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
Pinch salt (optional)
2 tablespoons sunflower seeds
2 tablespoons coconut, unsweetened, shredded
2 tablespoons sliced almonds
3 tablespoons pistachio nuts
3 tablespoon chopped walnuts

Directions

Preheat oven to 350 F.

In a mixing bowl, whip together bananas, soymilk, vegetable oil, chia seeds, vanilla, and sugar for two minutes. For best results, use an electric mixer.

Stir in remaining ingredients, mixing only until well combined.

Spray a loaf pan with non-stick cooking spray.

Pour batter into the loaf pan and bake for about 65 minutes, until fork inserted in center comes out clean.

Remove, cool slightly before slicing.

Makes 12 slices.

Serving Size: 1 Slice Per Serving: 221 calories, 13 g total fat (2 g saturated fat), 25g total carbs, 5g dietary fiber, 9g sugar, 5g protein, 60mg sodium.

This recipe was created by Sharon Palmer, MSFS, RDN, "the plant-powered dietitian."

@WabashPD

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Climate activist Greta Thunberg is Time 'person of the year'

NEW YORK (AP) — Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg was named Time's "person of the year" Wednesday, becoming at age 16 the youngest person to whom the U.S. magazine has given the title.

Thunberg emerged as the face of the youth climate movement after she started skipping school once a week to protest outside her country's parliament. In the past year and a half, she has drawn large crowds at international conferences and demonstrations outside Sweden.

Some have welcomed Thunberg's environmental activism, including her speeches challenging world leaders to do more to stop global warming. But others have criticized the teenager's sometimes combative tone.

"For sounding the alarm about humanity's predatory relationship with the only home we have, for bringing to a fragmented world a voice that transcends backgrounds and borders, for showing us all what it might look like when a new generation leads, Greta Thunberg is TIME's 2019 Person of the Year," the media franchise said Wednesday on its website.

Leaving a United Nations climate conference in Madrid where she addressed negotiators on Wednesday, Thunberg told The Associated Press she was "a bit surprised" by Time's recognition, which she dedicated to all young activists.

Thunberg said she was hopeful the message of urgency she and other activists are communicating – that governments need to drastically increase their efforts to combat climate change – is finally getting through.

She said the experience of the past 15 months, going from solo-protester outside the Swedish parliament to addressing world leaders at the U.N. General Assembly, had changed her.

"I think life is much more meaningful now that I have something to do that has an impact," Thunberg said in a phone interview.

She plans to head home to Sweden for some rest during the holidays. "If you don't take breaks, you won't be able to continue," she said.

Last year's Time winners included slain Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi; the staff of the Capital Gazette in Annapolis, Maryland, where five people were shot to death; Philippine journalist Maria Ressa; and two Reuters journalists, Wa Lone and Kyaw Soe Oo.





Trump sharply criticizes FBI head after Russia probe report

BY ERIC TUCKER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump lashed out Tuesday at FBI Director Christopher Wray, expressing dissatisfaction that Wray didn't cast a watchdog report on the origins of the Russia investigation as devastating for the bureau.

In an interview with The Associated Press Monday, Wray acknowledged the report had identified significant problems with how agents conducted the investigation into ties between Russia and his 2016 campaign and pledged to make changes. But Wray also characterized as ïmportant" that Inspector General Michael Horowitz found that the Russia investigation was opened for a proper cause and was not affected by political bias.

Wray told ABC News in a separate interview that he did not believe the Trump campaign had been unfairly targeted. The FBI also issued a statement stressing that the report "does not impugn the FBI's institutional credibility."

That provoked a sharp reaction from Trump on Twitter.

"I don't know what report current Director of the FBI Christopher Wray was reading, but it sure wasn't the one given to me," Trump tweeted. "With that kind of attitude, he will never be able to fix the FBI, which is badly broken despite having some of the greatest men & women working there!"

The tweet was a rare direct attack on Wray, who has largely been spared the public ire Trump vented at former FBI Director James Comey – whom he fired in May 2017 – and at Andrew McCabe, who temporarily replaced Comey but was later fired by the Justice Department. Wray inherited a year-old Russia investigation when he was installed in August 2017 and, by that point, the probe was already in the hands of special counsel Robert Mueller.

Wray, for his part, has kept a mostly low profile, rarely speaking in depth about the Russia investigation that he inherited or engaging in public conflicts with a White House that harbors skepticism about perceived political bias in the U.S. intelligence community.

Though he has appeared loath to respond aloud to Trump's criticism of the FBI, he has also defended the interests of the bureau even when it has put him at odds with the president. He has said that he does not believe that Mueller's investigation was a "witch hunt," as Trump has insisted, and he resisted efforts last year by the White House and congressional Republicans to declassify information from the Russia probe that was subsequently released.

Wray struck a similar balance in his comments on Monday, seizing on findings from the inspector general favorable to the FBI while also making a point to highlight the significant problems that it found. Those issues, Wray told AP, were "unacceptable and unrepresentative of who we are as an institution."

Wray told AP that the FBI would change how it handles confidential informants, how it applies for warrants from the secretive Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court, how it conducts briefings on foreign influence for presidential nominees and how it structures sensitive investigations like the 2016 Russia probe. He said he has also reinstated ethics training. In total, the FBI is implementing more than 40 changes, he said.

"I am very committed to the FBI being agile in its tackling of foreign threats," Wray said. "But I believe you can be agile and still scrupulously follow our rules, policies and processes."

He said that though it was important to not lose sight of the fact that Horowitz found the investigation justified and did not find it to be tainted by political bias, "The American people rightly expect that the FBI, when it acts to protect the country, is going to do it right – each time, every time.

"And," he added, "urgency is not an excuse for not following our procedures."

The report found that the FBI was justified in opening its investigation in the summer of 2016 into whether the Trump campaign was coordinating with Russia to tip the election in the president's favor. But it also identified "serious performance failures" up the bureau's chain of command, including 17 "significant inaccuracies or omissions" in applications for a warrant from the surveillance court to monitor the communications of former Trump campaign adviser Carter Page and subsequent warrant renewals.

The errors, the watchdog said, resulted in "applications that made it appear that the information supporting probable cause was stronger than was actually the case."

Wray declined to say if there was one problem or criticism that he found most troubling, but noted, "As a general matter, there are a number of things in the report that in my view are unacceptable and unrepresentative of who we are as an institution."

PULSE

Continued from A1

is available at 518 N. Wabash St.

Fairy House Workshop set for Dec. 14

The program will be held from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 14 at the Salamonie Interpretive Center at Salamonie Lake, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. The cost is $5 per person payable day of the event. Materials will be provided, with extra materials available for purchase. Advanced registration is required by calling 260-468-2127. Limited space is available. The suggested age for the program is 10 and above, and those under 18 should be accompanied by an adult.

LaFontaine Lions to host Santa Breakfast

The LaFontaine Lions will host a Santa Breakfast from 7:30 to 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 14 at the LaFontaine Community Building. The menu will include scrambled eggs, pancakes, sausage, sausage gravy, biscuit, juice, milk and coffee. Santa arrives at 9 a.m. There will be a free-will donation. Proceeds will go towards the LaFontaine United Methodist Church food pantry. Please bring in non-perishable foods. Donations of old glasses and keys will also be accepted.

Christmas concert planned for Dec. 15

A Christmas concert featuring the Wabash sixth grade chorus has been planned from 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15 at the Living Well Winchester Center; 239 Bond St. To enjoy the sounds of the season, register by calling 260-563-4475.

'White Christmas' to be shown at the Honeywell Center

"White Christmas" will be shown at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17 in the Honeywell Center's Ford Theater. The admission fee will be $2 per person.

'Ask a Teenager' tech basics event planned

Bring your electronic devices and your questions, assistance provided by Heartland Career Center Tech students at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17 at the Living Well Winchester Center, 239 Bond St. Sign-up is requested by calling 260-563-4475.

Red Cross blood donation opportunity set for Dec. 17

The Red Cross has scheduled a blood donation opportunity from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17, at the First United Methodist Church, 110 N. Cass St.

Census job opportunities to be discussed

The U.S. Census Bureau has planned a presentation at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 18 at the Living Well Downtown, 35 E. Market St. to present upcoming census job opportunities. Register for this event by calling 260-563-4475.

Celebrate 'The Wonders of Winter' on Dec. 18

Preschool-age children and their adults are invited to Salamonie Preschool's "The Wonders of Winter" from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 18 at Salamonie Interpretive Center in Lost Bridge West State Recreation Area, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. The program fee is $2 per child. Advance registration is appreciated. Register by calling Upper Wabash Interpretive Services at 260-468-2127. For more information on other UWIS programs, visit dnr.IN.gov/uwis or facebook.com/upperwabash.

DivorceCare presents 'Surviving the Holidays' series

The DivorceCare support group, which meets at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday in Room 112 in the Wabash Friends Church, 3563 South State Road 13, will be offering a DVD series "Surviving the Holidays" through Tuesday, Dec. 17. Group leader and members of the group meet for dinner at 5:30 p.m. at Subway, 1812 S. Wabash St., on State Road 15. For more information, call 260-563-8453, 877-350-1658 or group leader Janet Quillen at 260-571-5235; email office@wabashfriends.org; or visit www.divorcecare.org.

Breakfast with Santa planned

On Saturday, Dec. 21, Santa will be coming to Breakfast with Santa and will have a special treat for children at the Wabash County Historical Museum, 36 E. Market St.

Low Impact Fitness classes scheduled

Fitness that is both fun and free led by Mary Jo McClelland at 9:45 a.m. every Monday and Thursday, and 3 p.m. Wednesdays at Living Well Winchester Center, 239 Bond St. There is no fee or registration required.

Cancer care advocate available every Tuesday

A cancer care advocate is available from 1 to 4 p.m. every Tuesday at the Winchester Senior Center, 239 Bond St. No appointment is needed. This service is supported by the Hope Foundation and provided by Cancer Services out of Fort Wayne.

Yoga classes scheduled on Tuesdays

Yoga for those who are intermediate to experienced levels have been scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays at the Living Well Winchester Center, 239 Bond St. The cost is $10, and discount passes are available.

Red Cross blood donation opportunity set for Dec. 27

The Red Cross has scheduled a blood donation opportunity from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 27, at Parkview Wabash Hospital, 10 John Kissinger Drive.

First Day Hike planned at Salamonie Lake

Join Upper Wabash Interpretive Services' staff for a First Day Hike at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 1 at Salamonie Lake at 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. Meet at the interpretive center for a one-hour stroll through the woods along the moderate Tree Trail. Dress for the weather. Families and friendly dogs on leashes welcome. Advance registration is requested by calling 260-468-2127.

Honeywell Foundation's Annual Winter Bash draws near

The Annual Winter Break Bash, hosted by the Honeywell Foundation, will take place Thursday, Jan. 2 and Friday, Jan. 3 at various Honeywell Foundation venues including the Honeywell Center and Charley Creek Gardens. For more information about Winter Bash, visit the Honeywell Center website at www.honeywellcenter.org or call the Box Office at 260-563-1102.

January Salamonie Senior Luncheon set

The monthly Salamonie Senior Luncheon will be held at noon Monday, Jan. 6, 2020 at the Salamonie Lake Interpretive Center, 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. Anyone age 50 or older is welcome to attend. The program begins with a carry-in meal at noon. Potato soup will be provided. Guests should bring a side dish to share, a beverage and their table service. A $1 donation will be accepted. Reservations may be made by calling 260-468-2127.

Editor's note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to news@wabashplaindealer.com no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.



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Frankfort, IN (800) 974-9098	**Logansport, IN** (800) 635-7488	**Wabash, IN** (888) 876-9353

Quick Hits

Area Calendar

Swimming - Manchester vs. Rochester, 5 p.m., Wabash at Eastern, 5 p.m.

Wrestling - Manchester at Tippecanoe Valley, 6:30 p.m.; Northfield at Maconaquah, 6 p.m.

Wabash rallies for win

The Wabash girls' basketball team picked up a 44-42 win on Tuesday at home against Bluffton. Trailing 23-20 at halftime, the hosts rallied in the second half to secure the win. Alivia Short and Rylee Yoakum finished with 14 and 12 points, respectively.

Apache swimming falls to Zebras

The Wabash boys' swimming team fell to Rochester on Tuesday, 93-84. The 200-yard medley relay team of Seth Blossom, Taylor Coffman, Michael Cordes and Jonah France took first. Blossom set the school record in the 200-yard freestyle on the night in a win and lowered his own school record in the 100-yard butterfly in a win. France finished first in the 50-yard freestyle, Zach Reed took first in diving and Taylor Coffman won the 500-yard freestyle.

In the girls' meet, Becca Bruss won the 100-yard backstroke and 200-yard freestyle.

Apaches remain unbeaten on mats

Wabash's wrestling team moved to 8-0 on the year with a 62-18 win at Cass on Tuesday. Victories came from Jared Brooks, Ethan Higgins, Anthony Long, Robert Barnett, Braden Brooks, Brayden Sickafus, Traydon Goodwin, John Prater, Grant Carandante, Chad Wyatt Jr. and Grant Warmuth.

Emmanuel Christian drops duel

The Emmanuel Christian basketball team fell to ICA of Anderson, 67-49. Preston Ritzema tallied 17 points and five rebounds. Brogan Templin had 13 and Jack Niccum 10.

Submit your news

The *Plain Dealer* is accepting all news, varsity, junior varsity, middle school, elementary school and non-school affiliated recreational sports. To get a brief in the newspaper, please provide final score and any highlights pertaining to the event, including first and last names of participants. Reports must be received by 3:00 p.m. to make it in the following day's edition. Items may be:

E-mailed to sports@wabashplaindealer.com.

Called into 260-225-4523 after 11 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Please do not leave complete results on voice mail.

Mailed into *Plain Dealer,* 123 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Organizations or individuals e-mailing materials should call the sports department to ensure the information was received. The *Plain Dealer* reserves the right to edit material for length, clarity and/or style, and does not guarantee publication.

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL



ERIC ANDREWS/Herald Press

DRIBBLE: Manchester's Kiera Hatfield dribbles the ball against a Huntington North defender during Tuesday's game.

Viking defense suffocates Squires for comeback win

BY ERIC ANDREWS
eandrews@h-ponline.com

HUNTINGTON NORTH — Despite an evenly matched first quarter, the Huntington North girls basketball team controlled play the rest of the way to pick up a convincing 39–20 win over Manchester on Tuesday night in North Arena.

The victory improved the Vikings' record to 6–4 while Manchester dropped to 1–9.

It looked as though Huntington North would run away with the game in the early going, storming out to a quick 7–0 lead two and a half minutes in. But, the Squires stopped the bleeding and answered with an 11–2 stretch the rest of the way, capped by a three ball with just under a minute to play in the period. The trey gave Manchester their first lead of the night at 11–9, which would be the score entering the second quarter.

But, Manchester's luck would run dry in the second frame as Huntington North shut down the Squires throughout the period.

The Vikes regained the lead and added to it as the quarter progressed, ultimately scoring eight points in the frame while Manchester posted a goose egg, sending the game to halftime with Huntington North leading 17–11.

The hosts continued to tack on more points to their lead, extending the gap to 11 points after three periods thanks to outscoring the Squires 12–7 in the frame for a 29–18 advantage.

Huntington North put the exclamation point on the victory by locking things down the rest of the way, tallying 10 points to Manchester's two in the fourth quarter to put away the 39–20 triumph.

"I thought overall we did a pretty good job on both ends of the floor," Huntington North head coach Matt Hinds said. "We gave up some transition baskets in the first quarter that we were

See **VIKINGS** / Page B2

MLB

Cole mine: Gerrit, Yankees strike record $324M, 9-year deal

BY RONALD BLUM
AP Baseball Writer

SAN DIEGO — Gerrit Cole quickly ended Stephen Strasburg's tenure as baseball's highest-paid pitcher.

Cole agreed to a $324 million, nine-year contract with the New York Yankees on Tuesday night, a person familiar with the agreement told The Associated Press.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the agreement had not been announced.

Cole's deal established marks for pitchers in total dollars, topping the $245 million, seven-year contract Stephen Strasburg finalized a day earlier to remain with the World Series champion Washington Nationals.

Its $36 million average is a record for any player, beating the $35.5 million in outfielder Mike Trout's $426.5 million, 12-year deal with the Los Angeles Angels that started last season.

After finalizing the agreement for 31-year-old Strasburg, agent Scott Boras predicted he would go even high for Cole, a 29-year-old right-hander.

Cole was baseball's most dominant pitcher for much of 2019 and helped the Houston Astros come within one win of their second World Series title in three seasons.

"Obviously, when you are talking about a player at the level of Gerrit Cole, in a lot of ways that's a game-changing type talent," Yankees manager Aaron Boone said earlier in the day. "This is a guy that's really hungry, really driven."

Yankees general manager Cashman visited Cole and wife Amy in California last week, bringing along Boone, new pitching coach Matt Blake and special adviser Andy Pettitte.

After helping Houston beat the Yankees in a six-game AL Championship Series, Cole joins a rotation that includes Luis Severino, Masahiro Tanaka, James Paxton and J.A. Happ or Domingo Germán, who may be suspended at the season's start under baseball's domestic violence policy.

In other moves on the second day of the winter meetings:

— Shortstop Didi Gregorius is joining manager Joe Girardi in Philadelphia, agreeing with the Phillies on a $14 million, one-year contract, a person familiar with the deal told the AP. That person also spoke on condition of anonymity because the agreement, first reported by the New York Post, had not been announced.

See **MLB** / Page B2

GOLF

Scott looks to end years of Presidents Cup losses

BY DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

MELBOURNE, Australia — No one at Royal Melbourne has more playing experience in the Presidents Cup than Adam Scott.

Not much of it is positive.

He was a rookie in 2003 and one of the strongest voices arguing for Ernie Els and Tiger Woods to keep playing in gathering darkness in South Africa until the matches were declared a tie. Looking back, that would be a small victory for Scott and the International team. It has experience nothing but losing since then.

Even so, the optimism for the 39-year-old Australian — the oldest player on the youngest International team ever — has never been greater.

"This is a great opportunity for us, it really is," Scott said Wednesday on the eve of matches that the Americans have thoroughly dominated. "I've had a good feeling for the last couple months about the way our team shaped up. I feel a very, very strong energy, which certainly over some of the past Cups we've been lacking. It's not a lot of fun getting beaten all the time."

Scott knows that all too well.

He already holds the record for most losses in the Presidents Cup with a 14-20-5 record. By the end of the week, he will trail only Phil Mickelson — whose streak of 12 appearances ended this year — for most matches played.

But it has been hard to ignore the enthusiasm of Scott and the rest of the International team, which faces a big task against an American team that has never been stronger on paper going into the matches.

The average world ranking of the U.S. team is 12.3.

Scott has the highest ranking of any of the 12 players on his International team. He's at No. 18.

Els is the captain and is

See **CUP** / PageB2

COLLEGE ATHLETICS

NCAA: 'Highly probable' Congress passes athlete comp rules

BY RALPH D. RUSSO
AP College Sports Writer

NEW YORK — NCAA President Mark Emmert said Wednesday it is "highly probable" Congress will set national guidelines for how college athletes can be compensated for the use of their names, images and likenesses.

Emmert, who spoke at a forum sponsored by the Sports Business Journal, said he is spending most of his time trying to figure out how the NCAA and its member schools will allow thousands of athletes to get that kind of compensation under the auspices of amateur athletics.

He said he is also spending a lot of time in Washington meeting with lawmakers, often with university presidents and other representatives from individual schools.

Last week, Sen. Chris Murphy and Sen. Mitt Romney announced the formation of a bipartisan congressional working group on the topic of athlete compensation.

"They want to hear from their home universities," Emmert said. "Members of Congress care about college sports. They recognize how important it is to American society. They don't want to do harm. They want to make it better. But it's going to be a long road. It's not going to be something that happens overnight."

The issue gained urgency after California passed a law in October that will give college athletes the right to make money of things like endorsement deals and promoting businesses or products on their social media accounts. That law does not go into effect until 2023.

Since then, more than 20 other states have moved on similar legislation, with some states saying they would like new laws in place as soon as next year.

That would make it almost impossible for the NCAA to operate with consistent rules for all its members.

"This is an issue bigger than the NCAA. This is an issue bigger than an NCAA group," Southeastern Conference Commissioner Greg Sankey said. "Where we're going to head, I hope, is not simply a political discussion, but a thoughtful and informative conversation about how best to support student-athletes."

A federal law would eliminate that potential problem, but the NCAA would like a say in what that looks like.

"If you had a completely unfettered sponsorship model like some state bills are anticipating, the nature of that can slide very quickly into an employee-employer relationship," Emmert said.

The NCAA has had a working group sorting through name, image and likeness compensation since summer, before the Board of Governors last month cleared the way for athletes to be compensated

See **NCAA** / Page B2

SCOREBOARD

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Tuesday's men's results

INDIANA 57, UCONN 54

UCONN (6-3)
Akok 4-5 0-0 9, Polley 3-7 3-4 12, Carlton 9-14 0-0 18, Vital 2-8 2-5 7, Gilbert 1-9 0-0 3, Whaley 0-0 0-0 0, Bouknight 0-3 0-0 0, Adams 0-2 0-0 0, Gaffney 0-0 0-0 0, Wilson 2-3 1-1 5. Totals 21-51 6-10 54.
INDIANA (9-1)
Smith 2-7 3-4 8, Brunk 4-10 1-1 9, Jackson-Davis 4-8 0-0 8, Green 2-10 1-3 6, Durham 3-8 3-4 9, Anderson 1-2 0-0 2, Davis 2-6 0-0 4, Thompson 0-0 0-0 0, Hunter 1-2 0-0 2, Franklin 1-1 1-2 3, Phinisee 1-3 4-4 6. Totals 21-57 13-18 57.
Halftime-Indiana 34-29. 3-Point Goals-UConn 6-21 (Polley 3-7, Akok 1-2, Gilbert 1-4, Vital 1-5, Bouknight 0-1, Adams 0-2), Indiana 2-13 (Smith 1-3, Green 1-6, Anderson 0-1, Hunter 0-1, Durham 0-2). Fouled Out-None. Rebounds-UConn 33 (Vital 8), Indiana 26 (Jackson-Davis 7). Assists-UConn 15 (Gilbert 8), Indiana 14 (Smith, Jackson-Davis, Durham 3). Total Fouls-UConn 20, Indiana 15.

NO. 11 BAYLOR 53, NO. 18 BUTLER 52

BUTLER (9-1)
McDermott 6-8 0-0 16, Nze 2-6 2-4 6, Golden 1-2 2-2 4, Thompson 2-6 2-2 6, Baldwin 9-24 0-0 19, David 0-0 0-0 0, Tucker 0-3 0-0 0, Battle 0-2 1-2 1, Baddley 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 20-51 7-10 52.
BAYLOR (8-1)
Gillespie 4-6 0-1 8, Butler 3-12 1-1 8, Mitchell 2-9 1-2 6, Teague 3-12 3-4 10, Vital 3-7 0-1 7, Thamba 1-2 0-2 2, Bandoo 4-9 0-0 10, Mayer 1-3 0-0 2. Totals 21-60 5-11 53.
Halftime-Baylor 34-24. 3-Point Goals-Butler 5-15 (McDermott 4-6, Baldwin 1-5, Thompson 0-1, Battle 0-1, Tucker 0-2), Baylor 6-27 (Bandoo 2-5, Vital 1-1, Butler 1-6, Mitchell 1-6, Teague 1-8, Mayer 0-1). Fouled Out-None. Rebounds-Butler 29 (Thompson 8), Baylor 30 (Gillespie 9). Assists-Butler 9 (Baldwin 3), Baylor 11 (Mitchell 3). Total Fouls-Butler 16, Baylor 14. A-7,270 (10,284).

NOTRE DAME 110, DETROIT 71

DETROIT (1-8)
Miller 4-13 3-4 11, Brandon 1-1 0-2 2, Davis 12-21 2-2 27, Maxwell 0-3 0-0 0, Moore 1-4 0-0 3, Hofman 0-0 0-0 0, Nguidjol 1-1 0-0 2, Isiani 4-14 0-0 11, Calipari 4-5 0-0 12, Rose 0-1 1-2 1, Gorman 1-3 0-0 2, Legrand 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 28-66 6-10 71.
NOTRE DAME (7-3)
Mooney 7-9 0-0 15, Durham 6-7 4-4 16, Pflueger 1-2 0-0 3, Gibbs 6-15 0-0 18, Hubb 5-10 0-0 13, Laszewski 5-11 0-0 14, Goodwin 10-13 2-2 27, Djogo 1-2 2-2 4, Morgan 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 41-69 8-8 110.
Halftime-Notre Dame 49-33. 3-Point Goals-Detroit 9-30 (Calipari 4-5, Isiani 3-11, Moore 1-2, Davis 1-6, Miller 0-2, Gorman 0-2, Maxwell 0-2), Notre Dame 20-39 (Gibbs 6-12, Goodwin 5-7, Laszewski 4-9, Hubb 3-6, Pflueger 1-2, Mooney 1-2, Djogo 0-1). Fouled Out-None. Rebounds-Detroit 26 (Miller 6), Notre Dame 38 (Mooney 11). Assists-Detroit 12 (Davis 4), Notre Dame 33 (Hubb 11). Total Fouls-Detroit 12, Notre Dame 10. Technicals-Miller, Hubb.

Tuesday's men's scores
EAST
Boston College 72, Albany (NY) 51
Bryant 69, Fordham 61
Hofstra 71, Stony Brook 63
Massachusetts-Boston 69, Holy Cross 66, OT
Monmouth (NJ) 67, Princeton 66
Penn St. 76, Maryland 69
St. John's 82, Brown 71
Temple 108, Saint Joseph's 61
Towson 77, UMBC 71
SOUTH
Davidson 88, Coppin St. 52
Grambling St. 66, Louisiana-Monroe 61
McNeese St. 82, UMKC 73
Texas Tech 70, Louisville 57
The Citadel 129, Piedmont 83
UCF 79, Green Bay 66
MIDWEST
Bradley 91, Maryville (MO) 58
Fort Wayne 69, Judson 33
IUPUI 80, Indiana University South Bend 60
Kansas 95, Milwaukee 68
Notre Dame 110, Detroit 71
SOUTHWEST
Baylor 53, Butler 52
UALR 86, Tennessee St. 62
FAR WEST
BYU 75, Nevada 42
Colorado St. 72, S. Dakota St. 68
N. Iowa 79, Colorado 76
New Mexico St. 72, Denver 67
Utah St. 94, Saint Katherine 49

Tuesday's women's scores
EAST
Dartmouth 57, Maine 41
Duquesne 72, Cornell 62
Fairleigh Dickinson 68, NJIT 59
Minnesota 83, George Washington 50
Princeton 73, Hartford 42
Temple 74, Villanova 69
SOUTH
Nicholls 74, Louisiana-Monroe 59
MIDWEST
Bradley 78, Jackson St. 69
E. Michigan 64, Fort Wayne 40
Illinois 75, Merrimack 72
N. Iowa 81, Omaha 45
FAR WEST
Nevada 80, Cal State Stanislaus 62
New Mexico 92, Northern New Mexico 44

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	17	5	.773	—
Philadelphia	18	7	.720	½
Toronto	16	7	.696	1½
Brooklyn	13	10	.565	4½
New York	4	20	.167	14

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	18	6	.750	—
Orlando	11	12	.478	6½
Charlotte	10	16	.385	9
Washington	7	16	.304	10½
Atlanta	6	18	.250	12

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	21	3	.875	—
Indiana	15	9	.625	6
Detroit	10	14	.417	11
Chicago	8	17	.320	13½
Cleveland	5	18	.217	15½

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Dallas	16	7	.696	—
Houston	15	8	.652	1
San Antonio	9	14	.391	7
Memphis	7	16	.304	9
New Orleans	6	18	.250	10½

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Denver	14	8	.636	—
Utah	13	11	.542	2
Oklahoma City	11	12	.478	3½
Minnesota	10	13	.435	4½
Portland	10	15	.400	5½

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Lakers	21	3	.875	—
L.A. Clippers	18	7	.720	3½
Phoenix	11	12	.478	9½
Sacramento	10	13	.435	10½
Golden State	5	20	.200	16½

Monday's Games
L.A. Clippers 110, Indiana 99
Boston 110, Cleveland 88
Detroit 105, New Orleans 103
Milwaukee 110, Orlando 101
Sacramento 119, Houston 118
Toronto 93, Chicago 92
Oklahoma City 104, Utah 90
Phoenix 125, Minnesota 109
Memphis 110, Golden State 102
Tuesday's Games
Charlotte 114, Washington 107
Miami 135, Atlanta 121, OT
Philadelphia 97, Denver 92
Portland 115, New York 87
Wednesday's Games
Boston at Indiana
Houston at Cleveland
L.A. Clippers at Toronto
L.A. Lakers at Orlando
Charlotte at Brooklyn
Atlanta at Chicago
Utah at Minnesota
Memphis at Phoenix
New Orleans at Milwaukee
Oklahoma City at Sacramento
New York at Golden State
Today's Games
Philadelphia at Boston, 8 p.m.
Cleveland at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Dallas vs. Detroit at Mexico City, 9 p.m.
Portland at Denver, 10:30 p.m.
Friday's Games
Houston at Orlando, 7 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Miami, 7 p.m.
New Orleans at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Indiana at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Charlotte at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Milwaukee at Memphis, 8 p.m.
Golden State at Utah, 9 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Minnesota, 9:30 p.m.
New York at Sacramento, 10 p.m.

ON THE AIR

COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN'S)
8 p.m.
ESPN2: Iowa at Iowa St.
COLLEGE FOOTBALL
7 p.m.
ESPN: College Football Awards: From Atlanta
GOLF
7 p.m.
GOLF: Presidents Cup: U.S. vs. International Team, Day 2, Melbourne, Australia
BOY'S HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL
8 p.m.
ESPNU: Dematha (Md.) at Montverde (Fla.)
NBA BASKETBALL
8 p.m.
TNT: Philadelphia at Boston
10:30 p.m.
TNT: Portland at Denver
NFL FOOTBALL
8:20 p.m.
FOX / NFL: NY Jets at Baltimore
RODEO
10 p.m.
CBSSN: PRCA: National Finals, Las Vegas

NBA Leaders
Through Tuesday's Games
Scoring

	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Harden, HOU	23	238	290	873	38.0
Anteokmpo, MIL	24	275	153	741	30.9
Doncic, DAL	23	222	175	689	30.0
Young, ATL	22	208	141	633	28.8
Beal, WAS	22	212	133	615	28.0
Davis, LAL	23	222	167	636	27.7
Lillard, POR	22	182	154	587	26.7
Towns, MIN	21	189	96	549	26.1
James, LAL	24	239	91	621	25.9
Booker, PHX	23	207	118	586	25.5
Leonard, LAC	18	161	99	451	25.1
Ingram, NOR	20	179	94	498	24.9
Mitchell, UTA	24	217	104	592	24.7
Siakam, TOR	23	211	90	564	24.5
Wiggins, MIN	19	174	76	465	24.5
Westbrook, HOU	21	175	96	471	22.4
LaVine, CHI	25	189	104	556	22.2
McCollum, POR	24	212	41	528	22.0

NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE
East

New England	10	3	0	.769	338	168
Buffalo	9	4	0	.692	274	212
N.Y. Jets	5	8	0	.385	226	301
Miami	3	10	0	.231	221	399
South						
Houston	8	5	0	.615	317	309
Tennessee	8	5	0	.615	318	255
Indianapolis	6	7	0	.462	296	295
Jacksonville	4	9	0	.308	230	337
North						
x-Baltimore	11	2	0	.846	430	236
Pittsburgh	8	5	0	.615	259	242
Cleveland	6	7	0	.462	273	291
Cincinnati	1	12	0	.077	198	325
West						
y-Kansas City	9	4	0	.692	371	281
Oakland	6	7	0	.462	258	366
Denver	5	8	0	.385	236	261
L.A. Chargers	5	8	0	.385	289	251
NATIONAL CONFERENCE						
East						
Dallas	6	7	0	.462	334	267
Philadelphia	6	7	0	.462	297	301
Washington	3	10	0	.231	188	310
N.Y. Giants	2	11	0	.154	247	362
South						
y-New Orleans	10	3	0	.769	344	296
Tampa Bay	6	7	0	.462	378	381
Carolina	5	8	0	.385	300	360
Atlanta	4	9	0	.308	300	343
North						
Green Bay	10	3	0	.769	309	270
Minnesota	9	4	0	.692	339	249
Chicago	7	6	0	.538	243	232
Detroit	3	9	1	.269	287	335
West						
San Francisco	11	2	0	.846	397	229
Seattle	10	3	0	.769	341	321
L.A. Rams	8	5	0	.615	311	262
Arizona	3	9	1	.269	272	374

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division

Today's Game
N.Y. Jets at Baltimore, 8:20 p.m.
Sunday's Games
Denver at Kansas City, 1 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Detroit, 1 p.m.
Houston at Tennessee, 1 p.m.
Miami at N.Y. Giants, 1 p.m.
Seattle at Carolina, 1 p.m.
Chicago at Green Bay, 1 p.m.
New England at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.
Philadelphia at Washington, 1 p.m.
Cleveland at Arizona, 4:05 p.m.
Jacksonville at Oakland, 4:05 p.m. Minnesota at L.A. Chargers, 4:05 p.m.
Atlanta at San Francisco, 4:25 p.m.
L.A. Rams at Dallas, 4:25 p.m.
Buffalo at Pittsburgh, 8:20 p.m.
Monday's Game
Indianapolis at New Orleans, 8:15 p.m.

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	31	20	5	6	46	107	78
Buffalo	32	15	11	6	36	101	97
Florida	30	15	10	5	35	106	101
Montreal	31	14	11	6	34	101	103
Toronto	32	15	13	4	34	104	104
Tampa Bay	29	15	11	3	33	105	93
Ottawa	31	13	17	1	27	84	97
Detroit	32	7	22	3	17	67	129

Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	32	22	5	5	49	117	93
N.Y. Islanders	29	20	7	2	42	86	69
Philadelphia	30	17	8	5	39	96	85
Carolina	31	19	11	1	39	103	85
Pittsburgh	31	17	10	4	38	104	85
N.Y. Rangers	30	15	12	3	33	94	94
Columbus	30	12	14	4	28	76	93
New Jersey	30	9	16	5	23	74	111

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis	32	18	8	6	42	94	88
Colorado	30	19	8	3	41	111	84
Winnipeg	31	19	10	2	40	92	83
Dallas	32	18	11	3	39	84	76
Nashville	29	14	10	5	33	98	93
Minnesota	31	14	12	5	33	92	101
Chicago	31	12	13	6	30	84	98

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Arizona	33	18	11	4	40	91	80
Edmonton	33	18	11	4	40	100	99
Calgary	33	17	12	4	38	91	98
Vegas	33	16	12	5	37	98	94
Vancouver	31	15	12	4	34	104	95
San Jose	33	15	16	2	32	89	114
Anaheim	31	13	14	4	30	82	92
Los Angeles	32	12	18	2	26	80	103

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

Tuesday's Games
Tampa Bay 2, Florida 1
Montreal 4, Pittsburgh 1
Buffalo 5, St. Louis 2
Nashville 3, San Jose 1
Winnipeg 5, Detroit 1
Anaheim 3, Minnesota 2, SO
Dallas 2, New Jersey 0
Calgary 5, Arizona 2
Carolina 6, Edmonton 3
Toronto 4, Vancouver 1
Vegas 5, Chicago 1
Los Angeles 3, N.Y. Rangers 1
Wednesday's Games
Boston at Washington
Ottawa at Montreal
Philadelphia at Colorado
Today's Games
Boston at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m.
Nashville at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Florida, 7 p.m.
Columbus at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
Winnipeg at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Vegas at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
Edmonton at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Toronto at Calgary, 9 p.m.
Chicago at Arizona, 9 p.m.
Los Angeles at Anaheim, 10 p.m.
Carolina at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

MLB

Remaining Free Agents
AMERICAN LEAGUE
BALTIMORE (1) — Mark Trumbo, dh-of-1b.
BOSTON (6) — Andrew Cashner, rhp; Jhoulys Chacín, rhp; Brock Holt, inf-of; Mitch Moreland, 1b; Steve Pearce, 1b-of; Rick Porcello, rhp.
CHICAGO (4) — Ross Detwiler, lhp; Jon Jay, of; Iván Nova, rhp; Héctor Santiago, lhp.
CLEVELAND (5) — Tyler Clippard, rhp; Ryan Flaherty, inf; Jason Kipnis, 2b; Dan Otero, rhp; Yasiel Puig, of.
DETROIT (5) — Edwin Jackson, rhp; Gordon Beckham, 2b; Jordy Mercer, ss; Matt Moore, lhp; Tyson Ross, rhp.
HOUSTON (8) — Robinson Chirinos, c; q-Gerrit Cole, rhp; q-Will Harris, rhp; Martín Maldonado, c; Collin McHugh, rhp; Wade Miley, lhp; Héctor Rondón, rhp; Joe Smith, rhp.
KANSAS CITY (1) — Alex Gordon, of.
LOS ANGELES (2) — Trevor Cahill, rhp; Kole Calhoun, of.
MINNESOTA (4) — Jason Castro, c; Martín Pérez, lhp; Sergio Romo, rhp; Jonathan Schoop, 2b.
NEW YORK (8) — Dellin Betances, rhp; Edwin Encarnación, dh-1b; Brett Gardner, of; Cory Gearrin, rhp; Didi Gregorius, ss; Cameron Maybin, of; Austin Romine, c; CC Sabathia, lhp.
OAKLAND (3) — Brett Anderson, lhp; Homer Bailey, rhp; Tanner Roark, rhp.
SEATTLE (4) — Félix Hernández, rhp; Wade LeBlanc, lhp Tommy Milone, lhp; Arodys Vizcaíno, rhp.
TAMPA BAY (1) — Avisaíl García, of; Eric Sogard, 2b.
TEXAS (6) — Welington Castillo, c; Logan Forsythe, inf; Nate Jones, rhp; Shawn Kelley, rhp; Hunter Pence, dh-of; Edinson Vólquez, rhp.
TORONTO (2) — Clay Buchholz, rhp; Justin Smoak, 1b.
NATIONAL LEAGUE
ARIZONA (4) — Jarrod Dyson, of; Wilmer Flores, of; Yoshihisa Hirano, rhp; Adam Jones, of.
ATLANTA (11) — Jerry Blevins, lhp; Francisco Cervelli, c; q-Josh Donaldson, 3b; Billy Hamilton, of; Adeiny Hechavarría, inf; Matt Joyce, of; Dallas Keuchel, lhp; Brian McCann, c; Anthony Swarzak, rhp; Julio Teheran, rhp; Josh Tomlin, rhp.
CHICAGO (11) — Tony Barnette, rhp; Nick Castellanos, of; Xavier Cedeño, lhp; Steve Cishek, rhp; Derek Holland, lhp; Brandon Kintzler, rhp; Jonathan Lucroy, c; Brandon Morrow, rhp; David Phelps, rhp; Pedro Strop, rhp; Ben Zobrist, inf-of.
CINCINNATI (2) — José Iglesias, ss; Alex Wood, lhp.
COLORADO (2) — Yonder Alonso, 1b-of; Drew Butera, c.
LOS ANGELES (5) — David Freese, 3b; Jedd Gyorko, inf; Rich Hill, lhp; Russell Martin, c; Hyun-Jin Ryu, lhp.
MIAMI (4) — Starlin Castro, inf; Curtis Granderson, of; Martín Prado, 1b-3b; Neil Walker, 1b-3b.
MILWAUKEE (5) — Matt Albers, rhp; Gio González, lhp; Jay Jackson, rhp; Jordan Lyles, rhp; Eric Thames, 1b.
NEW YORK (5) — Luis Avilán, lhp; Rajai Davis, of; Todd Frazier, 3b; Juan Lagares, of; René Rivera, c.
PHILADELPHIA (11) — Corey Dickerson, of; Jared Hughes, rhp; Tommy Hunter, rhp; Brad Miller, inf-of; Logan Morrison, 1b; Pat Neshek, rhp; Juan Nicasio, rhp; Sean Rodríguez, inf-of; Drew Smyly, lhp; Jason Vargas, lhp; Nick Vincent, rhp.
PITTSBURGH (3) — Melky Cabrera, of; Lonnie Chisenhall, of; Francisco Liriano, lhp.
ST. LOUIS (4) — Tony Cingrani, lhp; Marcell Ozuna, of; Michael Wacha, rhp; Matt Wieters, c.
SAN DIEGO (3) — Aaron Loup, lhp; Craig Stammen, rhp; Adam Warren, rhp.
SAN FRANCISCO (3) — Fernando Abad, lhp; q-Madison Bumgarner, lhp; Pablo Sandoval, 3b.
WASHINGTON (9) — Matt Adams, 1b; Asdrúbal Cabrera, 2b-3b; Brian Dozier, 2b; Jeremy Hellickson, rhp; Daniel Hudson, rhp; q-Anthony Rendon, 3b; Fernando Rodney, rhp; Jonny Venters, lhp; Ryan Zimmerman, 1b.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
American League
BOSTON RED SOX — Promoted executive vice president/assistant general manager Brian O'Halloran to general manager.
LOS ANGELES ANGELS — Assigned RHP Jose Rodriguez outright to Salt Lake (PCL).
National League
SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS — Signed RHP Kevin Gausman to a one-year contract. Acquired INF Zack Cozart and INF Will Wilson from the Los Angeles Angels for a player to be named or cash.
WASHINGTON NATIONALS — Agree to terms with C Yan Gomes on a two-year contract and INF Howie Kendrick to a one-year contract.
FOOTBALL
National Football League
NFL — Suspended Washington CB Simeon Thomas four games for violating the NFL's substance abuse policy.
ARIZONA CARDINALS — Re-signed DL Caraun Reid. Placed DL Rodney Gunter on IR.
DETROIT LIONS — Placed WR Marvin Jones on injured reserve. Signed DT Frank Herron from the Miami Dolphins' practice squad.
LOS ANGELES CHARGERS — Waived CB Tevaughn Campbell.
NEW YORK GIANTS — Signed P Sean Smith to the practice squad.
OAKLAND RAIDERS — Signed RB Rod Smith. Waived LB Preston Brown, DT Terrell McClain and S D.J. Swearinger.

Placed TE Foster Moreau on reserve/injured list. Placed CB Dylan Mabin on the practice squad.
SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS — Placed WR Marquise Goodwin on the IR. Signed LB Joey Alfieri to the practice squad. Released WR Deontay Burnett and LB Christian Sam from the practice squad. Placed LB Demetrius Flannigan-Fowles on the practice squad IR.
TENNESSEE TITANS — Signed LB Josh Smith to the practice squad.
WASHINGTON REDSKINS — P laced CB simeon Thomas and RB Derrius Guice on reserve/suspended list. Activated CB Danny Johnson from the physically unable to perform list. Signed RB Josh Ferguson the practice squad. Signed RB Derrick Gore and LB Pete Robertson to the practice squad.
HOCKEY
National Hockey League
CALGARY FLAMES — Recalled F Matthew Phillips from Stockton (AHL).
DALLAS STARS — Fired coach Jim Montgomery. Promoted assistant coach Rick Bowness to interim head coach, Texas (AHL) coach Derek Laxdal to Dallas assistant coach and Texas assistant coach Neil Graham to head coach.
DETROIT RED WINGS — Assigned D Madison Bowey to Grand Rapids (AHL).
NEW JERSEY DEVILS — Placed C Nico Hischier on IR, retroactive to Thursday. Recalled C Mike McLeod from Binghamton
TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING — Reassigned F Cory Conacher to Syracuse (AHL).
SOCCER
Major League Soccer
DALLAS — Signed F Jesús Ferreira to a four-year contract.
D.C. UNITED — Re-signed D Frédéric Brillant to a two-year contract extension.
COLLEGE
AUBURN — Named Chad Morris offensive coordinator.
BOSTON COLLEGE — Junior RB AJ Dillon announced he will enter the NFL draft.
GEORGIA — Named Matt Luke offensive line and associate head coach.
NORTHWESTERN — Named Mike Bajakian offensive coordinator/quarterbacks coach.
UNLV — Named Marcus Arroyo football coach.

CUP

Continued from B1

keeping his strategy and how much he has relied on analytics to the team room. The Big Easy played eight times in the Presidents Cup and was part of the 1998 team at Royal Melbourne that beat the Americans for its only victory.

Scott is playing in his ninth Presidents Cup, which breaks the International team record held by Els and Vijay Singh. "Between me and Scotty, we've played the most Cups on our side," Els said. "I've got a great, young team. Guys are naturally just standing up, guys who are quite comfortable to speak. And I like that. I like the spirit we have this week."

A large part of it starts with Scott, who has much to gain this week. He is desperate to finally win a Presidents Cup, and he can think of no better place than to hoist the trophy with his young teammates in his home country.

He is in the third of five fourballs matches that kicks off the Presidents Cup on Thursday, playing with Abraham Ancer — one of seven rookies on this team — against Bryson DeChambeau and Tony Finau.

Scott has implored the Australian crowd not to forget who the home team is this week, even with Tiger Woods as the first playing captain in 25 years. Even during two days of practice, the crowd has been enthusiastic over what many believe will be the last time seeing him Down Under. Woods beat Greg Norman in singles during the '98 loss. He beat Aaron Baddeley for the clinching point when the Americans won at Royal Melbourne in 2011. Because the lineups for each session are done one match at a time, captains can choose who they want playing against which team.

Because of Woods' larger-than-life presence in the game, he typically gets the biggest name from the host country — Norman in 1998, Els in 2003 in South Africa, Mike Weir in Canada in 2007. The International team is so spunky that even some of the rookies, whether it's Ancer or Cameron Smith of Australia, have said they'd like a shot at him.

The most natural draw would be Woods against Scott. Woods, as U.S. captain, can make that happen.

Scott is more interested in Thursday's opening session than Sunday singles. The International team had a one-point lead after the second day in 2005 in Virginia. That was the last time it led after any session in the Presidents Cup. Last time at Liberty National was particularly brutal, with the Americans enjoying a six-point lead going into the weekend, and they nearly clinched it on Saturday.

NCAA

Continued from B1

"in a manner consistent with the collegiate model."

The board gave its sprawling membership a deadline to make legislative changes by 2021.

Big 12 Commissioner Bob Bowlsby is part of the NIL working group.

"This hasn't, frankly, been the most enjoyable NCAA service that I have been involved with," Bowlsby said. He said the timetable the NCAA has set is "doable."

Ultimately what the NCAA does is likely to be dictated by lawmakers.

Temple athletic director Patrick Kraft said he knows compensating athletes is on its way to becoming a reality. He said he is "not losing sleep'' over the issue.

"I just want to know how am I going to protect my institution and protect (the athletes)," he said.

The NCAA and college sports leaders have generally been apprehensive about federal regulation. Once the door is open, it could be difficult for college sports leaders to dictate what is off limits to lawmakers.

"That's going to be up to Congress," Emmert said. "We'll provide whatever input we can and answer whatever questions they want. They may well see other things they think could or should be addressed."

Emmert, who has been in his job since October 2010, acknowledged some issues "can't be really resolved without congressional action."

"But nobody is talking about the federal government running college sports," he said.

MLB

Continued from B1

■ San Francisco acquired infielder Zack Cozart and infield prospect Will Wilson from the Angels for a player to be named or cash, taking on Cozart's salary of nearly $12.7 million next year.

■ Right-hander Kevin Gausman agreed to a $9 million, one-year contract with the Giants, eight days after Cincinnati allowed him to become a free agent.

■ Outfielder Adam Jones and the Orix Buffaloes of Japan's Pacific League agreed to an $8 million, two-year contract.

■ Minnesota Twins finalized a $20 million, two-year contract with suspended pitcher Michael Pineda and a $4.25 million, one-year deal with catcher Alex Avila.

■ Washington retained two more players from its championship team, finalizing a $10 million, two-year contract with catcher Yan Gomes and a $6.25 million, one-year contract with infielder Howie Kendrick, who provided key hits in the postseason.

■ The Chicago White Sox acquired outfielder Nomar Mazara from Texas for minor league outfielder Steele Walker.

■ Houston manager AJ Hinch said he couldn't publicly answer questions about Major League Baseball's investigation into allegations by former Astros pitcher Mike Fiers that Houston used electronics to steal signs in 2017.

Before finalizing Cole's deal, Boras held his usual metaphor-laden winter meetings news conference and said this offseason's uptick in the free agent market was a response to the fourth straight season of decreased major league attendance.

"I think a lot of clubs have seen the result of taking an academic approach in a competitive environment, and that has resulted in declines in attendance and lack of interest and unfulfilled expectations," he said. "Therefore, I believe they're returning more to a traditional approach, where they're going to go out and supplement their teams with known and veteran talent."

Even before the meetings, he negotiated a $64 million, four-year contract for infielder Mike Moustakas and Cincinnati. Boras also represents star third baseman Anthony Rendon, another of Washington's World Series champions who became a free agent,

"Major league teams sometimes are like birds," Boras said. "Some hummingbirds will buzz around and move through the process. There's probably sparrows who have a big desire to get something big that they can't quite carry the weight of it. Lately, there's a lot of owls, where they're kind of wise and mostly work at night in what they do, very thoughtful. Certainly we have a lot more hawks this year than the past, and probably the biggest concern is you don't want to be an ostrich and lay the biggest egg."

He went on to say "the Mets right now, they're maybe a bird of a different feather."

New York general manager Brodie Van Wagenen was amused.

"Yeah, we're more polar bears and squirrels," he said, referencing the nicknames for Mets All-Stars Pete Alonso and Jeff McNeil.

VIKINGS

Continued from B1

not too happy with, but other than that, I thought we defended well and got great shots. The transition baskets were a big factor and we weren't attacking their zone early in the first half. We finally started attacking and penetrating a little bit and got things rolling. It was not a big possession game as far as shots are concerned with either team, so shooting percentage was a big key tonight."

As Hinds mentioned, Huntington North was fairly efficient in its shooting, converting on 14 of 29 field goals while burying six of eight freebies.

Leah Campbell and Taylor Double led the attack for the Vikings, both sinking 10 points. The duo each drained a pair of long balls to account for four of Huntington North's five makes from beyond the arc.

Reece Colclesser and Addy Wiley each chipped in with seven points apiece to round out the Lady Vikes' notable offensive showings.

In addition to an effective night of shooting, Hinds was pleased with his group's ability to take care of the ball, another key to Huntington North's victory.

"We came into the game wanting to cut down on fouls and turnovers and our kids did a great job of that," Hinds said. "There were a few unforced (turnovers), but, for the most part, we did a great job of moving the ball and getting great shots."

Although Huntington North did nearly double Manchester's scoring output, the 39 points scored by the Lady Vikes was the fourth time being held to less than 40 this season.

Manchester head coach Josh Troyer credited his defense and expressed his pleasure with how his group defended.

"I thought defensively we were really good," Troyer said. "We played hard on the defensive end. Had we not had to pressure them there late third quarter (and) early fourth, I think it's not even 39 points, and I don't think they've been held to that very often. They're a talented young group with a lot of good guards (and the) post players do their role. I was really proud of us defensively, and we've been that way all year."

On the other end of the floor, Beletu Stout paced Manchester with six points, earning praise from Troyer.

"Beletu Stout played great tonight," Troyer said. "She's a junior for us (who) has actually played some JV minutes because she asked. … She had a really good JV game (and) I'm like, 'Let's see what she's got.' She looked confident tonight, and she played with that confidence. She looked really good. I'm really proud of her minutes. I thought she jump-started us on the offensive end of the floor."

Kiera Hatfield was not far behind, sinking five points of her own, while Ainsley West rounded out the scoring podium for the Lady Squires with three points.

"Offensively, we've gotta execute better. We've gotta make better decisions. And they pressured us. Kudos to them because they played really hard on the defensive end of the floor. Part of it is still that side of the floor we've just gotta keep figuring out. … We just don't have consistent scoring yet. We get it from different people every night. If we could ever get them all to decide to play on the same night and have those offensive nights, I think the offensive side would start to show itself. But, we're just not there yet."

Manchester will return to the court on Friday for an away duel at Whitko at 7 p.m. while Huntington North will host New Haven in a Northeast 8 Conference battle on Friday at 7:30 p.m.

NFL

Patrick Mahomes earning tough-guy reputation

BY DAVE SKRETTA
AP Sports Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Patrick Mahomes is quickly earning a reputation as one of the toughest quarterbacks in the NFL.

That's not necessarily a good thing for the Kansas City Chiefs.

From the sprained ankle in the season opener against Jacksonville, to the dislocated kneecap against Denver that caused him to miss a couple of games, to the bruised and battered hand that caused him all kinds of problems in New England, the second-year starter and reigning league MVP has managed to deal with all the pain that comes with playing the position.

Not just deal with it but flourish in spite of it.

But if the Chiefs are to win their final three regular-season games, and perhaps swipe away a first-round playoff bye from the Patriots, they need their star quarterback on the field. And that means the Chiefs need to figure out a way to prevent Mahomes from taking so much abuse beginning Sunday against the Broncos.

"That comes with playing the quarterback position, I think, in this league," Chiefs coach Andy Reid said. "As it goes, you're the face of the organization and the leader of the team. There are certain things that you have to do and step up. It's not just one thing — it's not that you just have to throw the ball 50 yards down the field, but that you lead the guys around you to be even better than what they are. He has an innate ability to do that. He keeps everybody involved on both sides of the ball."

In other words, good luck convincing Reid to take Mahomes out unless the quarterback is seriously hurt.

Good luck convincing Mahomes to leave the game, too.

"It doesn't feel great right now," he said of his latest hand injury, "but it's something that you play with. In this sport, you're going to get hurt, you're going to bang something. So for me, it's about going out there and competing and relying on my teammates to help me out whenever I'm not feeling 100 percent."

That's been the case for about 99 percent of this season.

Not much of the blame falls on the offensive line, though. Mahomes only has been sacked 13 times, a modest number even given the couple of games he missed with his knee injury. He also is among the least-hit quarterbacks in the league when you consider the fact that Kansas City often sends him back to pass 40 or more times a game, and that much of the Chiefs' offensive system is predicated on run-pass options that can put him in peril.

The ankle injury, for example, occurred when an offensive lineman stepped on his foot. The knee injury came on the most innocuous of plays: a quarterback sneak. The hand injury against the Patriots came when Mahomes got hit awkwardly.

"I was trying to throw that ball away and got hit, threw it away and got tackled right as I threw it away," he said. "I knew something was wrong but I didn't know for sure. Then I tried to fire that next pass and it didn't look too pretty, so I kind of just let the trainers look at it. They gave me the good-to-go and so I went out there, battled, figured out ways to throw the ball across the middle and maybe not shoot those long shots that I usually throw but enough to get them back."

The numbers bear out the difference. Mahomes threw for 226 yards with a touchdown in the first half against New England, when the Chiefs raced to a big lead. They threw for just 57 yards in the second half, when they held on for a 23-16 victory.

Yet just by finishing the game, Mahomes provided more evidence he is becoming one of the elite QBs.

The Packers' Brett Favre may have set the standard as an NFL ironman, starting more than 300 consecutive games while playing through a broken thumb, a sprained ankle, a separated shoulder and torn biceps. And the three-time MVP did all of that while playing in one of the harshest environments in the league in frigid Green Bay.

Other quarterbacks also belong in the pantheon of ironmen: Peyton Manning overcame neck surgery to continue his career, Tom Brady has only missed just over a season during the course of his career, and many people forget that before becoming a television analyst that Ron Jaworski once started 123 consecutive games from 1977-84.

The Chiefs would love Mahomes to put together a similar starting string.

Right now, he's at four and counting.

Notes: DE Frank Clark will see a specialist this week for a stomach ailment that has been bothering him for the past couple of weeks. He managed to play against New England before it flared up again. "We found somebody he can go see and might be able to get a grasp on this thing and see exactly what it is," Reid said. "That's where we're at, kind of waiting, trying to keep him as comfortable as possible." ... RB Damien Williams practiced Wednesday after missing last week's game with a rib injury. ... CB Morris Claiborne (shoulder) remained out of practice.

NFL

Titans host Texans in battle for AFC South lead

BY BARRY WILNER
AP Pro Football Writer

Remember the Titans? You'd better do so.

The Tennessee Titans suddenly look like world beaters. Or, at least, a solid choice to win the AFC South.

They have won four straight and six of seven to climb into a tie for the division lead with the Texans. Houston comes off a monumental crash after its superb victory against New England.

Since switching from Marcus Mariota — where will he be quarterbacking next year — to Ryan Tannehill, Tennessee has averaged 31.4 points a game, second most in the NFL in that span. The Titans also have 27 touchdowns over the past seven games after getting 11 through the first six games.

"'It's been good to be able to put ourselves in a position now to focus and concentrate on the Houston Texans," coach Mike Vrabel said.

Houston seemed primed to take the division before that debacle against Denver. Now it faces its top threat in the AFC South twice in the final three weeks.

"We're all in this together, but it all starts with me," coach Bill O'Brien said. "Look, we're an 8-5 football team coming off a (big win) and we got beat soundly by the Broncos, and we've got to come in here and go back to work. We've got important games left. There's a lot of football left to be played."

Tennessee, No. 12 in the AP Pro32, is playing better than No. 11 Houston, which is a 3-point underdog.

TITANS, 22-16

No. 10 Los Angeles Rams (plus 2) at No. 15 Dallas

Buying Rams big time. Selling America's team, big time.

BEST BET and UPSET SPECIAL: RAMS, 26-21

No. 16 Philadelphia (minus 5½) at No. 29 (tie) Washington

Eagles don't deserve it, but will take NFC East lead.

EAGLES, 17-13

No. 9 Buffalo (plus 1 1-2) at No. 13 Pittsburgh

Don't have enough guts to make this the Upset Special.

BILLS, 16-15

No. 18 Indianapolis (plus 9) at No. 3 New Orleans (Monday night)

Colts too banged up to hang in with ticked-off Saints.

SAINTS, 30-16

No. 24 New York Jets (plus 14 1-2) at No. 1 Baltimore (Thursday night)

When will NFL learn not to put Jets in prime time? Still, spread is too high.

RAVENS, 26-14

No. 14 Chicago (plus 4 1-2) at No. 6 Green Bay

Bears are coming on. Trip to Lambeau stops that progress

PACKERS, 20-15

No. 8 New England (minus 9½) at No. 32 Cincinnati

We were wrong about Patriots last week. Not here.

PATRIOTS, 26-8

No. 4 (tie) Seattle (minus 6) at No. 23 Carolina

Seahawks had their stinker last week, Panthers are majoring in them.

SEAHAWKS, 27-16

No. 21 Denver (plus 11) at No. 4 (tie) Kansas City

Chiefs have outside shot at No. 2 playoff seed and bye.

CHIEFS, 32-23

No. 27 Miami (plus 3) at No. 31 New York Giants

Dolphins should have won at Meadowlands last week, will win this Sunday.

DOLPHINS, 23-17

No. 25 Atlanta (plus 11) at No. 2 San Francisco

Niners feeling like champs after that win in the Big Easy.

49ERS, 33-20

No. 8 Minnesota (minus 3) at No. 22 Los Angeles Chargers

Vikings on verge of playoffs, won't flop in this one.

VIKINGS, 28-20

No. 17 Tampa Bay (minus 3½) at No. 29 (tie) Detroit

Bucs have major decision ahead on Jameis Winston, who helps his case here.

BUCCANEERS, 35-25

No. 28 Jacksonville (plus 6 1-2) at No. 20 Oakland

Raiders will depart Black Hole with convincing victory.

RAIDERS, 31-19

No. 19 Cleveland (minus 2½) at No. 26 Arizona

Can't trust Cleveland, which could stumble here.

BROWNS, 21-20

2019 RECORD

Last Week: 7-7-2 against spread, 7-9 straight up.

Season Totals: 110-93-4 against spread, 123-82-1 straight up.

Best Bet: 11-3 against spread, 12-2 straight up.

Upset special: 7-7 against spread, 7-7 straight up.

MLB

Study: Inconsistent seams, player behavior behind home run uptick

BY JAKE SEINER
AP Sports Writer

SAN DIEGO — The baseballs weren't juiced during a record-setting 2019 regular season, according to a study commissioned by Major League Baseball.

They were just flying farther.

A four-person committee of scientists found that baseballs this year had less drag on average than in previous seasons, contributing to a power surge that resulted in a record number of home runs. Their report released Wednesday blamed the spike on inconsistencies in the seam height of the baseballs, as well as "changes in player behavior." Batters connected 6,776 times in the regular season, smashing the record of 6,105 set in 2017.

The committee says it did not find evidence that MLB intentionally altered the baseballs and believes the inconsistencies were due to "manufacturing variability." The balls are hand-sewn by workers at Rawlings' factory in Costa Rica.

"We have never been asked to juice or de-juice a baseball," said Rawlings President and CEO Michael Zlaket. "And we've never done anything of the sort. Never would."

The 27-page report was authored by physics professor Alan Nathan, statistics professor Jim Albert, mechanical engineering and mathematics professor Peko Hosoi and mechanical engineering professor Lloyd Smith.

A series of recommendations were provided. The scientists say MLB should consider installing humidors at all 30 ballparks "to reduce the variability in storage conditions," and install atmospheric tracking systems in each stadium. They believe Rawlings should begin tracking dates that baseballs are manufactured and shipped, and they also have suggested a study with a larger sample size to explore the possibility that carry is influenced by the rubbing mud applied to bright, white baseballs before they are used in games.

Former pitcher and current MLB executive Chris Young said the league will accept those recommendations.

"We choose to use a piece of equipment in our game that is made of natural materials and is hand-stitched," added MLB vice president Morgan Sword. "That introduces a lot of variability."

The committee also confirmed suspicions by players and coaches that the "juiced" ball was carrying less during the 2019 postseason. Cardinals manager Mike Shildt said during the NL Championship Series that St. Louis' analytics team believed fly balls were traveling 4½ feet less on average. That backed a study published by data scientist Rob Arthur at Baseball Prospects showing the balls suddenly had less drag.

The scientists could not determine why the playoff balls weren't flying as far. MLB has said the postseason balls were pulled from the same batch as the regular season ones, and Nathan said there was no discernible difference in the seam height among the samples they studied.

The aerodynamics of the baseballs were found to be notably different even within each season. The committee cited "significant ball-to-ball variation in the baseball drag that is large compared to the year-to-year change in the average drag."

The committee concluded that 60% of the home run surge across 2018-19 could be attributed to an increase in carry, with 40% due to players attempting to hit more fly balls.

For the first time, Triple-A used Rawlings balls from the same Costa Rica factory this season, and hitters at that level also blew past the Triple-A home run record. Zlaket said that was because the balls from Costa Rica were closer to specifications because they were of a higher quality.

Not juiced balls, but spruced balls.

"The ball we make for Major League Baseball is much more precise," Zlaket said.

The study was conducted using laboratory testing of baseballs dating to 2013, as well as data pulled from MLB's Statcast tracking system. The group said it "significantly modified" its lab tests from a previous study released in 2018, which also found that drag in the baseball was decreasing but did not confirm that seam height inconsistencies were the strongest factor.

Changes to the roundness of the ball, surface roughness and the thickness of the laces were found to be "relatively consistent."

NFL

Raiders leaving home Coliseum

BY JOSH DUBOW
AP Pro Football Writer

OAKLAND, Calif. — Let the outsiders mock the dirt infield, flooding locker rooms and antiquated facilities.

For coach Jon Gruden and many of the players who have called the Oakland Coliseum home during the team's 41 seasons there, it was a special and unique venue that had no match across the NFL.

That all comes to an end Sunday, when the Raiders are set to play their final scheduled game in Oakland before moving to Las Vegas next season. They host Jacksonville.

It will be a sentimental day for many, including Gruden, who got his head coaching career started here in 1998 and ends every win by heading to the Black Hole to celebrate with the team's most rabid supporters.

"I just love it here," Gruden said. "I had my first son here and I kind of have a lot of history here, and some of my friends, a lot of my friends are in the Black Hole. A lot of my only friends are here. I don't have a lot of friends except the guys in the Black Hole. I only get to see them six or seven times. I get emotional talking about it."

The Coliseum has served as the home for two Super Bowl champions, several Hall of Famers and memorable games like the "Sea of Hands" playoff win over Miami in 1974.

But it's what went on off the field that sometimes made it stand out even more from other venues. There are the tailgates that feature the mix of aromas of barbecue, beer and marijuana for one of the league's most diverse fan bases.

There are the distinct costumes that fans where each game, turning landscapers and lawyers into beloved and sometimes scary characters that are as much a part of the fabric of the Coliseum as the players on the field.

"It's our fans. Our fans make it that way. The Black Hole. You don't go to any other stadium and see something like that," said quarterback Derek Carr, who began his career here in 2014. "People have tried to imitate it. People have tried to steal their team's name and people behind it, but there's only one. It's Raider Nation. It started here and it will always be the Raider Nation, and I think that there's that mystique about the Raiders."

When the Raiders leave, it will be the end of an era when it comes to stadiums. After a stretch in the 1960s and '70s when several stadiums were built to house both football and baseball teams, the trend these days has been to single-sport venues despite the added cost.

Back in 1981 when the Raiders played their final season of their first stint in Oakland, 16 of the 28 teams in the NFL played in stadiums also used for baseball. Many of those also had the infield dirt for early-season games, an element of the Coliseum that has been mocked in recent years. But starting next year, no stadium will host an NFL and Major League Baseball team.

"That was part of the uniqueness of the stadium, being multi-use, being able to have baseball and football. It was just the pride of Oakland," said former Raiders linebacker Kirk Morrison, who grew up going to the Coliseum as a fan and buys his dad season tickets every Father's Day.

"For me, that's always been home. I know it won't be probably after this year but I still hold all those memories of that. ... That's what the emotional tie is for a lot of Raiders fans who are from Oakland is that now you're taking away that identity of the city, which is hard."

The Coliseum wasn't always the rundown relic it has become.

Former Raiders quarterback and coach Tom Flores remembers what a welcome change it was when the Raiders moved into the new stadium in 1966 after spending the first six seasons playing games at Kezar Stadium or Candlestick Park in San Francisco or tiny Frank Youell Field in Oakland, which sat about 20,000 fans.

"Then we get the Coliseum, the state-of-the-art Coliseum in little old Oakland when nobody even knew who we were," Flores said. "It's kind of sad that it's old and grumpy and falling apart. It's sad to see. It's exciting that we're going to a new stadium in Vegas, but my feeling has always been we belong in Oakland. But it's not going to happen."

Flores experienced the Coliseum from the perspective of a visitor as well, coming back as a player and assistant with the rival Kansas City Chiefs in the 1970s. Back then the most rabid fans weren't in the end zone in what is now known as the Black Hole, but right behind the visitors' bench.

"It could be intimidating," Flores said. "Just walking into the stadium is kind of frightening. Raiders fans look scary some times. It's like Halloween every Sunday."

Rescuer describes horror of New Zealand's silent eruption

BY NICK PERRY
Associated Press

WHAKATANE, New Zealand — The eruption was so silent that Lillani Hopkins didn't hear it over the hum of the boat's engines. She didn't turn around until her dad whacked her.

Then she saw it. Huge clouds of ash and steam shooting into the sky. She was so excited, she grabbed her phone out of her dad's bag and hit record. But then the plume stopped going up and started rolling out over the cliffs – and her awe turned to fear.

Just under the surface of the crater, pressure had been building for months. Now the super-heated water, about 300 Fahrenheit, burst out in a powerful spray. The blast also contained ash, rocks and a few boulders the size of exercise balls, but it was likely the scalding water that was most deadly.

There were 47 tourists on New Zealand's White Island at the time of Monday's eruption: 24 from Australia, nine from the U.S., five New Zealanders and others from Germany, Britain, China and Malaysia. Many had taken a day trip from the Royal Caribbean cruise ship Ovation of the Seas. Authorities believe 14 people were killed. Those who survived the blast had terrible burns and some ran into the sea screaming – a screaming that would not stop.

Three weeks earlier, New Zealand's seismic monitoring agency GeoNet had raised the alert level on the island from 1 to 2, on a scale where 5 is a major eruption. The agency had noted the water level in the crater lake had been rising since August and that over the previous few weeks there had been an increase in sulfur dioxide gas, which comes from magma deep in the volcano. Many people around the world have asked: How could the tours of the island continue in the face of such warning signs?

One answer may be that people in New Zealand are used to living on a giant seismic fault line that arcs around the Pacific Ocean. They ski on mountains that sometimes belch dark ash onto the snow, and take hikes past pools of boiling mud. They carry on working as minor earthquakes rattle cups from shelves. And they've toured White Island for decades, marveling as it steams and belches.

The country's tourism industry thrives on adventure spiced with a little danger. A 2 on the scale? White Island Tours, the island's sole tour operator, decided to carry on. Company chairman Paul Quinn issued a statement Wednesday saying that while many questions remain, its priority for now is helping those affected.

Lillani, a 22-year-old student who has studied volcanoes, had taken her dad, Geoff, a pastor, to the island for a 50th birthday present on Monday. Their group's two guides told them to wear hard hats. They gave them gas masks, which the guides said they could wear if they had trouble with their breathing.

The guides told them the sulfur dioxide and other gases on the island turn acidic when mixed with their saliva, and gave them candies to suck. Lillani has asthma and found she needed to wear the mask near the crater. Her dad noticed his throat getting sore.

As they walked around the island, Lillani was full of enthusiasm, and questions. She asked her guide: What do we do if it erupts? Strap on your mask and take shelter, he told her. Run to the shipping container that's over there for emergencies, it's full of supplies.

Aside from their two guides, Lillani and her dad were the only New Zealanders in their tour group. The others were from Asia, America, Europe. Some didn't speak much English. Lillani loved every moment on the island, which is also known by the Maori name Whakaari.

After 90 minutes, the group got back on the boat, and was just a couple of football fields away from the shore when the volcano erupted. The crew told them to get below deck. Then they asked for people with medical training, and Lillani and her dad, who had both trained in first aid, joined two doctors on deck. A dinghy ferried the injured aboard, 23 in all.

Lillani had never seen anything like it. Welts and burns that covered every inch of exposed skin. People's faces coated in gray paste, their eyes covered so they couldn't see, their tongues thickened so they couldn't talk. Some of them still screaming.

Passengers passed Lillani bottles of water. She rinsed out mouths, cleaned eyes and poured as much water on the burns as she could. Many were burned even under their clothes, and Lillani needed to cut them away.

Lillani talked to the injured, asked them questions about their vacations, trying to distract them and keep them conscious. She began singing her church songs. She stopped for a moment, embarrassed that she wasn't much of singer. Somebody grabbed her leg: Please keep going.

The boat was flying, trying to make the hourlong trip back to shore as quickly as possible. Halfway back, the coast guard met them and two paramedics jumped aboard. They gave some of the injured medication, but others were so severely burned the paramedics couldn't find their veins.

When they finally got back to shore, Lillani says all 23 of those she helped were still breathing. But she hasn't had any contact with them since and doesn't know if they all survived.

Thirty-nine people were taken from the island that day on Lillani's boat and in helicopters. Five were already dead or died soon after. A sixth person who was being treated for burns at an Auckland hospital died on Tuesday night. Thirty others remain hospitalized, with 25 in critical condition. New Zealand's burns units are working around the clock trying to keep those people alive, performing operations on them and skin grafts.

Lillani has just about finished her studies in geography and sociology at Waikato University and is looking forward to a career in teaching. She still loves volcanoes, she says, and being able to experience active ones is a privilege she hopes others will continue to be able to enjoy.

Suu Kyi denies Myanmar genocide allegations at top U.N. court

BY ALEKS FURTULA and LORNE COOK
Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — Myanmar's former pro-democracy icon Aung San Suu Kyi on Wednesday denied that her country's armed forces committed genocide against the Rohingya minority, telling the U.N.'s top court that the exodus of hundreds of thousands of Muslims was the unfortunate result of a battle with insurgents.

In a measured tone, Suu Kyi calmly refuted allegations that the army had killed civilians, raped women and torched houses in 2017 in what Myanmar's accusers describe as a deliberate campaign of ethnic cleansing and genocide that saw more than 700,00 Rohingya flee to neighboring Bangladesh.

She said the allegations stem from "an internal armed conflict started by coordinated and comprehensive armed attacks ... to which Myanmar's defense services responded. Tragically, this armed conflict led to the exodus of several hundred thousand Muslims."

Her appearance at the International Court of Justice was striking in that Suu Kyi was defending the very armed forces that had kept her under house arrest for about 15 years. She was awarded the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize in absentia for championing democracy and rights under Myanmar's then-ruling junta. A small group of her supporters gathered Wednesday outside The Hague-based court.

Suu Kyi told the court that the African nation of Gambia, which brought the legal action against Myanmar on behalf of the 57-country Organization of Islamic Cooperation, had provided "an incomplete and misleading factual picture" of what happened in Myanmar's northern Rakhine state in August 2017.

Gambia alleges that genocide was committed and is still ongoing. It has asked the world court to take action to stop the violence, including "all measures within its power to prevent all acts that amount to or contribute to the crime of genocide" in Myanmar.

But Suu Kyi said developments in one of Myanmar's poorest regions are "complex and not easy to fathom." She detailed how the army responded on Aug. 25, 2017, to attacks by insurgents trained by Afghan and Pakistan extremists.

Addressing the court in her capacity as Myanmar's foreign minister, Suu Kyi insisted that the country's armed forces had tried "to reduce collateral damage" during fighting in 12 locations. While conceding that excessive force might have been used and that one helicopter may have killed "non-combatants," Suu Kyi said a Myanmar investigation is looking into what happened and should be allowed to finish its work.

"Can there be genocidal intent on the part of a state that actively investigates, prosecutes and punishes soldiers and officers who are accused of wrongdoing?" she asked the court.

Suu Kyi and Myanmar's legal team argued that the genocide convention does not apply to Myanmar. They invoked Croatia during the Balkans wars in the 1990s, saying that no genocide was deemed there when thousands of people were forced from their homes by fighting.

On Tuesday, Justice Minister Aboubacarr Tambadou urged the International Court of Justice to "tell Myanmar to stop these senseless killings, to stop these acts of barbarity that continue to shock our collective conscience, to stop this genocide of its own people."

Also Tuesday, the U.S. slapped economic sanctions on four Myanmar military officers suspected of human rights violations. It sanctioned Min Aung Hlaing, commander of Myanmar's armed forces, over allegations of serious rights abuses. Deputy commander Soe Win and two other military leaders, Than Oo and Aung Aung, were also targeted.

"There are credible claims of mass-scale rape and other forms of sexual violence committed by soldiers under Min Aung Hlaing's command," a U.S. statement said.

The court's hearings on Myanmar are scheduled to end Thursday.

Leaders scramble for final votes as UK's ugly election ends

BY JILL LAWLESS
Associated Press

LONDON — Britain's election has been like the country's late-autumn weather: chilly and dull, with blustery outbursts.

On the last day of the campaign, political leaders dashed around the U.K. on Wednesday trying to win over millions of undecided voters who will likely determine the outcome.

Opinion polls suggest Prime Minister Boris Johnson's Conservatives have a lead over the main opposition Labour Party led by Jeremy Corbyn ahead of Thursday's election. But all the parties are nervous about the verdict of a volatile electorate fed up after years of Brexit wrangling.

Truck driver Clive Jordan expressed a weariness that could be heard up and down the country during the five-week campaign.

"Basically I just want it over and done with now," he said. "Nobody's doing what they said. Everybody's lying."

Britain's first December vote since 1923 has been dubbed the Brexit Election. It is being held more than two years early in hopes of breaking Britain's political deadlock over the country's stalled departure from the European Union.

Johnson has focused relentlessly on Brexit throughout the campaign, endlessly repeating his slogan "Get Brexit done." He says that if he wins a majority of the 650 House of Commons seats on Thursday, he will get Parliament to ratify his "oven-ready" divorce deal with the EU and take Britain out of the bloc as scheduled on Jan. 31.

"If we can get a working majority, we have a deal, it's ready to go," Johnson said Wednesday as he watched pies being baked at a catering firm in central England. "We put it in, slam it in the oven, take it out and there it is – get Brexit done."

As a slogan, "Get Brexit done" is both misleading and effective. If Britain leaves the EU on Jan. 31 it will only kick-start months or years of negotiations on future trade relations with the bloc, involving tough trade-offs between independence and access.

"His campaign was all about 'Getting Brexit done,' but actually it's about getting Brexit started," said Tony Travers, professor of government at the London School of Economics. "Elections seem to suggest these things are easy; they're not."

But the notion of an end to the Brexit melodrama is tempting to voters who have watched politicians bicker for more than three years since Britain's June 2016 vote to leave the European Union.

"Brexit is fueling the election," said Allan Bailey, a parish councilor in Clowne, a former coal-mining village in the central England constituency of Bolsover. "If one person can offer this area ... Brexit, that person will win."

The Conservatives have focused much of their energy on trying to win seats like Bolsover – working-class towns in central and northern England that have elected Labour lawmakers for decades, but also voted strongly in 2016 to leave the EU.

Polls suggest that plan may be working, and the Conservatives have also been helped by the Brexit Party led by Nigel Farage, which decided at the last minute not to contest 317 Conservative-held seats to avoid splitting the pro-Brexit vote.

Labour – which is largely but ambiguously pro-EU – faces competition for anti-Brexit voters from the centrist Liberal Democrats, Scottish and Welsh nationalist parties and the Greens.

"The only reason the Conservatives are so far ahead in the polls now is that the 'remain' vote is divided," said Rosie Campbell, professor of politics at King's College London. "For 'remain' voters it has been a real failure of leadership."

If the Tories fail to win a majority, it will be a sign that voters think other issues are just as important as Brexit. Labour has focused on domestic issues, especially the wear and tear to the country's state-funded health service after nine years of Conservative government austerity. Labour also promises to boost public spending, nationalize Britain's railways and utilities and provide everyone in the country with free internet access – all paid for by raising taxes on high earners.

"My message to all those voters who are still undecided is that you can vote for hope in this election," Corbyn planned to say Wednesday at his final campaign rally.

The people sing: 'Les Mis' soothes, breaks Hong Kong hearts

BY JOHN LEICESTER
Associated Press

HONG KONG — For Hong Kong spectators mentally and physically drained from six months of pro-democracy protests that have convulsed the city, a rousing performance of "Les Miserables" proved almost too much to bear.

Audience members wept, dabbing their eyes with handkerchiefs, big tears rolling down their cheeks, as a Hong Kong theater troupe aiming to both comfort and re-energize emotionally battered spectators belted out the rousing musical based on Victor Hugo's classic tale of rebellion in 19th century France.

Audience members said images from the protests flashed through their minds as they soaked up the free outdoor performance on Tuesday night.

The crowd several hundred strong joined with the troupe in singing "Do You Hear the People Sing?" – the stirring lyrics eloquently putting to words what many Hong Kong protesters feel.

"It is the music of a people who will not be slaves again!" they sang. "Will you join in our crusade? Who will be strong and stand with me?"

The amateur troupe, dressed in black, which has become the color of protest in Hong Kong, is made up of volunteers who responded to an online appeal for singers and musicians.

Singer Harriet Chung said their aim is to tour the show to all 18 of Hong Kong's districts. Tuesday's performance was the troupe's third, staged in a park in Tai Po in the New Territories that are north of Hong Kong Island and Kowloon and which butt up against mainland China.

"It is a very powerful work that everyone needs in such a time in Hong Kong," Chung said. "There's a lot of violence. There's a lot of injustice around. But this piece is about love and power and what you can do for love, for your ideals, for your ideas, so that is why we want to pass this message to everyone in Hong Kong."

With no costumes and minimalist lighting, the show lacks the big-ticket stagecraft of Hollywood, Broadway and London West End cousins but packs a powerful emotional punch in the febrile atmosphere of anti-government protest in Hong Kong.

Wiping away tears that welled behind his glasses, red-eyed spectator Herman Tang said the song "Bring Him Home" made him think of protesters who were trapped by a police siege of a university campus last month.

"Very moved," he said. "Some of the words in the song echo the current situation in Hong Kong."

Organizers made booklets of the lyrics, in Chinese and English, for spectators to download onto their cellphones, so they could sing along. Audience members waved lit phones in the air during songs, creating a tapestry of lights. At the end, the troupe and the audience, accompanied by the orchestra, joined in a hair-raising rendition of "Glory to Hong Kong," an anonymously penned anthem that has become the protest movement's signature song.

Chung, the singer who works as a writer in her day job, said she's long been a fan of "Les Miserables," but that it strikes an especially deep chord now.

"It's like pictures after pictures of happenings in Hong Kong passing through my mind when I sing the lyrics. Sometimes it's heartbreaking. Sometimes it's heartwarming," she said. "There are pictures of protests, police violence, and the life we have lost, the brothers and sisters we lost in this movement, so it is a very emotional journey and I can feel that from the audience, too."

Spectators who came to the show worried that the protest movement is flagging as it enters a seventh month went away feeling energized and sounding recommitted to a long-haul struggle. The movement is pushing five key demands, including full elections for Hong Kong's legislature and leader and a probe of the city's police force, which has fired 26,000 tear-gas and rubber-baton rounds at protesters and arrested more than 6,000 people.

Weinstein's bail increased over monitoring issues

BY MICHAEL R. SISAK
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Harvey Weinstein's bail was increased from $1 million to $5 million on Wednesday over allegations he violated bail conditions by mishandling his electronic ankle monitor.

But Judge James Burke rejected prosecution calls to put the disgraced movie mogul in jail over the alleged violation.

Weinstein, 67, arrived at court in the morning using a walker, and his lawyer said he will be undergoing back surgery on Thursday. In his last court appearance, he hobbled into court and looked more pained than usual.

On Wednesday, Burke warned that he would revoke his bail and issue a warrant for his arrest if other issues crop up.

"If you have any further medical issues, the court will not be terribly understanding," Burke said.

Weinstein was calm and respectful during the hearing and indicated that the surgery would help ensure his appearance at his trial. The disgraced movie mogul is scheduled to stand trial in New York City beginning Jan. 6 on rape and sexual assault charges.

Hotheaded friend dunks man's toothbrush in toilet

Dear Abby



DEAR ABBY: I have shared a friendship for 40 years with a woman who is known for having a quick temper. Although I have been on the receiving end of her anger many times, we manage to maintain our relationship.

She lives across the country now and, unfortunately, suffers from a major debilitating illness. She lives with a man she argues with often, in his small apartment. They struggle financially, and she recently confided that when they argue, she dunks his toothbrush in the toilet to get even. Obviously, it is without his knowledge.

I have never met him, but he is very nice to me when I call. I want to tell him what my friend has been doing. I feel he needs to know the health risks he's facing when he brushes his teeth.

Of course, if I do, I know I'll incur her wrath once again as she'll know I ratted her out. And he will undoubtedly evict her from the apartment. She doesn't have the finances to get her own place, and the eviction may result in her becoming homeless. I'm struggling with which is worse: his health risk or her homelessness.

So far, I have kept my mouth shut, but each day I know he is brushing his teeth with bacteria. Should I continue to remain silent? – Yuck Factor In The Desert

DEAR YUCK FACTOR: While dipping his toothbrush in the toilet may not kill him, it could make him sick. Tell him what has been going on. If your friendship with the woman ends, so be it.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 34-year-old single mother of a 7-year-old son who wants me to get married. I'm not dating anyone, so marriage is nowhere in the near future.

I know my son's wish for me to be married is due to the absence of his "father" in his life and his desire to have a dad. I have technically been single for more than 10 years. I dated a lot over the years but haven't during the last two years, instead focusing on my mental, emotional and physical well-being in addition to securing a decent career path, which I'm just a week into.

I have contemplated dating for months, even prior to my son saying anything. Being an only parent, I have very little free time, and dating can be very disappointing. I don't have time to waste. Should I get back out there for the sake of my son or not? – Dating For Two In California

DEAR DATING: Should you date because your son wants a father? No. You should date because you meet someone whose values and interests are similar to your own, someone you think is worth getting to know better.

You are starting a new career, and in time you will meet eligible men. In the meantime, because your son needs a masculine influence in his life, consider having him spend time with male family members. If that's not possible, contact Big Brothers Big Sisters of America and try to arrange a mentor for him. The website is bbbs.org.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

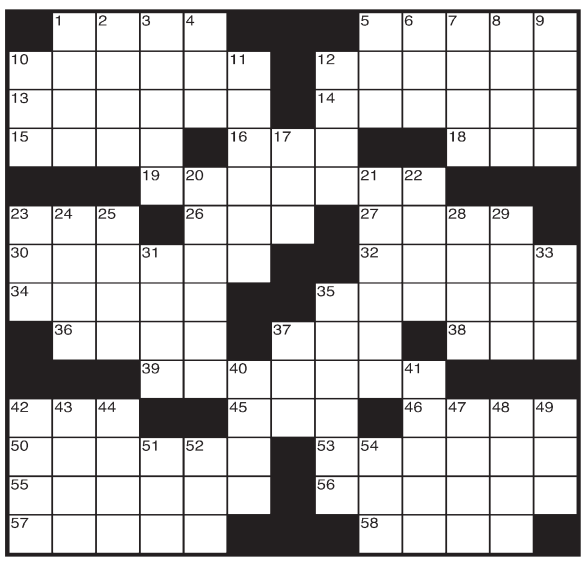
1 Part of speech
5 Mends a toe
10 Circus (2 wds.)
12 Get back
13 Refer casually (to)
14 Beethoven's Third
15 — -do-well
16 Part of LAX
18 Section of a relay race
19 Jotted down
23 Of recent origin
26 Part of mph
27 Asian desert
30 Swapped
32 Housetops
34 Port in a storm
35 Mystify
36 Youngster
37 Almost-grads
38 Small fry
39 Most nervous
42 Osaka sash
45 Son of Prince Valiant
46 Canute's foe
50 Spite
53 Derive as a conclusion
55 Soak up
56 Slackened off
57 Not cling (2 wds.)
58 Farewells

DOWN

1 Pharaoh's river
2 Stare at rudely
3 Driving test feat (hyph.)
4 Head gesture
5 "— Rosenkavalier"
6 In time past
7 Track
8 — and easy
9 Disadvantage
10 Not allow
11 Threw rocks at
12 Quiet relaxation
17 Boathouse implement
20 Raised the lid
21 Entrance's opposite
22 Ensure failure
23 Ultimate degree
24 Was, to Ovid
25 Like permed hair
28 Boxing match
29 In that case (2 wds.)
31 Hockey feint
33 Thickened, as pudding
35 Starr or Vaccaro
37 Boot camp sentence ender
40 Outfit
41 In these times
42 Kind of tradition
43 Slugger — Ruth
44 Part of MIT
47 Sitar kin
48 Virtuosos
49 Gave food to
51 Gear
52 Sierra Madre gold
54 Decline gradually

Answer to Previous Puzzle

S	E	A	L	E	D	■	F	R	U	G	A	L
A	R	M	A	D	A	■	L	O	N	E	L	Y
N	A	P	K	I	N	■	A	U	N	T	I	E
■	■	■	E	T	C	■	S	E	E	■	■	■
D	A	B	S	■	E	L	K	■	R	E	P	S
O	L	E	■	G	R	A	S	■	V	E	A	L
M	O	T	■	A	S	P	■	M	E	R	L	E
A	N	T	E	S	■	P	H	I	■	I	L	E
I	S	A	Y	■	D	E	A	L	■	L	I	V
N	O	S	E	■	I	D	S	■	H	Y	D	E
■	■	■	B	E	G	■	T	A	O	■	■	■
M	O	R	A	L	E	■	I	N	S	E	C	T
S	H	E	L	L	S	■	E	N	T	R	E	E
G	O	B	L	E	T	■	R	O	A	R	E	D



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SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆

4	2			7		5		3
				9		8		
				6	4			1
1		2	4			9		
7				2				8
		3			9	1		4
9			5	1				
		5		8				
2		1		4			3	5

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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

4	8	2	6	7	9	3	5	1
1	5	9	3	2	8	6	7	4
6	7	3	4	1	5	9	2	8
2	1	4	9	8	3	7	6	5
9	3	8	7	5	6	4	1	2
5	6	7	1	4	2	8	9	3
3	9	1	2	6	4	5	8	7
8	2	6	5	3	7	1	4	9
7	4	5	8	9	1	2	3	6

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MEASU

NRDIG

TRYOHN

ZEFEER



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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: SLOSH CHIDE PLURAL CACTUS
Answer: She loved having the new way of discarding food scraps in the sink — AT HER DISPOSAL

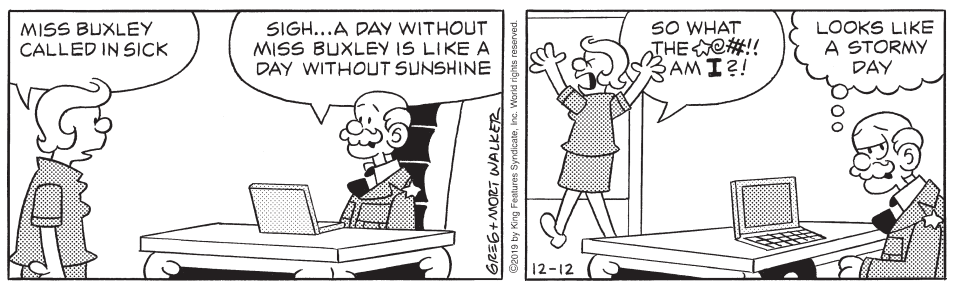
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THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



"No, that's just one of his helpers."

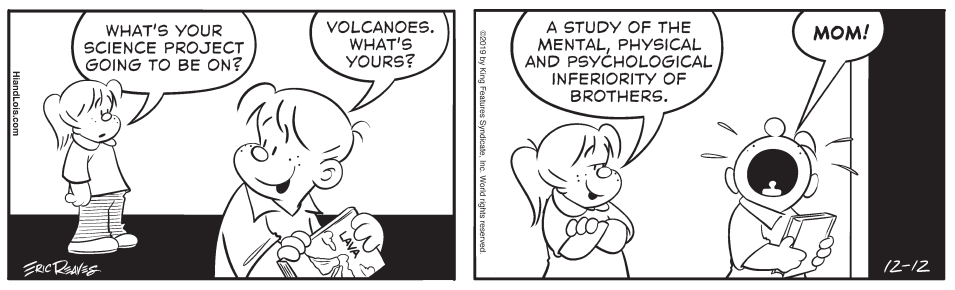
BEETLE BAILEY



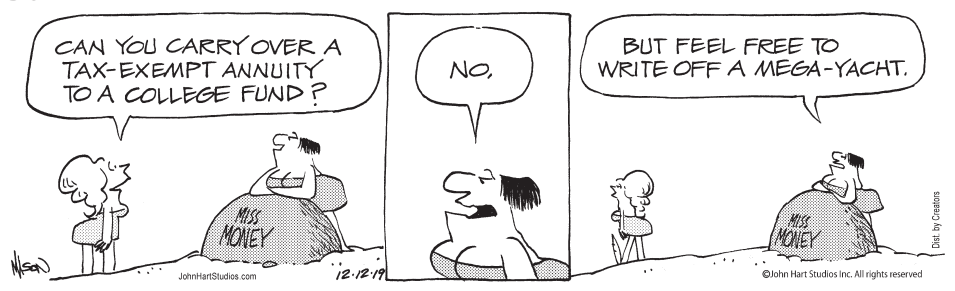
BLONDIE



HI & LOIS



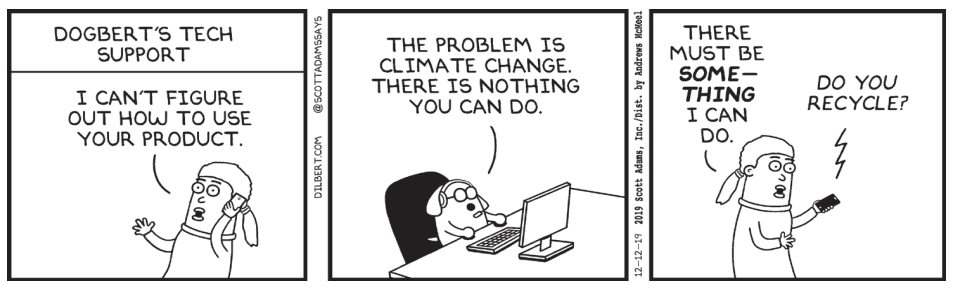
BC



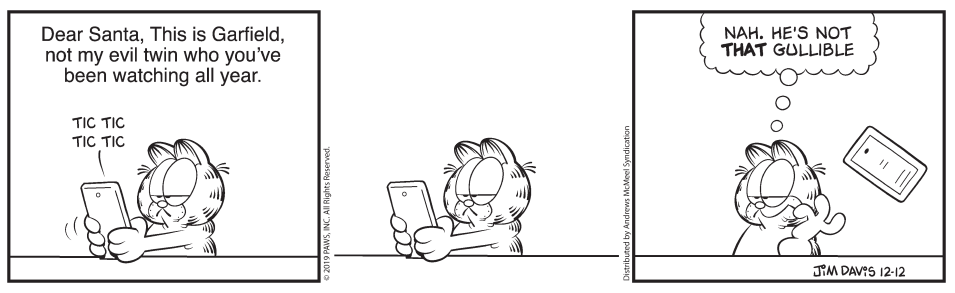
WIZARD OF ID



DILBERT



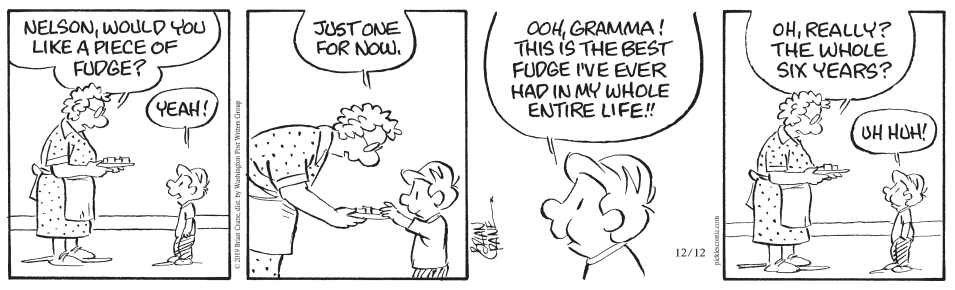
GARFIELD



FORT KNOX



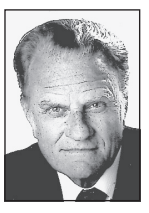
PICKLES



Only two classes of people, the saved and the lost

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

Billy Graham
My Answer



Q: Religion seems to separate mankind instead of unite them as the Bible commands. Why is this when we are all brothers and God is the Father of the whole human race? – M.T.

A: There is a great deal of misunderstanding when it comes to the universal Fatherhood of God and brotherhood. The majority of appeals made in behalf of peace are based on the idea of brotherhood. There is a wrong sense in which God is the Father of us all by creation. The truth is that He is the Creator of mankind. But the world seems to be blinded to the fact that for mankind to know God spiritually as Father they must receive Christ as personal Lord and Savior and accept His forgiveness and His salvation, which brings about repentance, a turn-about-face. Only then are we brought into the family of God. His spiritual Fatherhood belongs only to those who trust in Him.

Class warfare is another misunderstanding in society. The Bible says that there are only two classes of people: the saved and the lost; those who are going to Heaven and those who are going to Hell (Matthew 7:13-14).

Outside of Christ's work on the cross – His death and His resurrection from the grave – there is bitterness, intolerance, ill will, prejudice, lust, greed, and hatred. Within the efficacy of the cross of Christ Jesus, there is love and fellowship, new life and new brotherhood, no matter the race, nationality, or social standing.

"For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity ... to create in Himself one new man" (Ephesians 2:14-15). There is no Jew, no Gentile – no black, white, yellow, or red. Those who belong to Christ are one great brotherhood in Him.

CELEBRITY CIPHER
by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"KPFEUZ EUKT PDDTNUK KCR YNGSED'L VRZVRKKPGSR SPDF TW KPLKR, EK EL EUDNJGRUK NYTU XTN UTK KT WEK EU." — MPURPUR ZPVTWPST

Previous Solution: "If you live your life defining yourself by what other people think of you, it's a form of self-torture." — Sarah Silverman

TODAY'S CLUE: H = Q

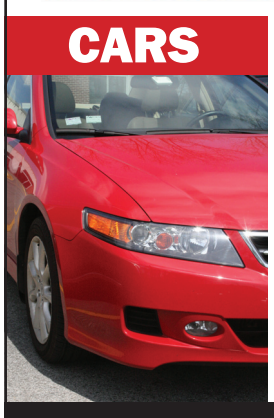
Central Indiana MARKETPLACE

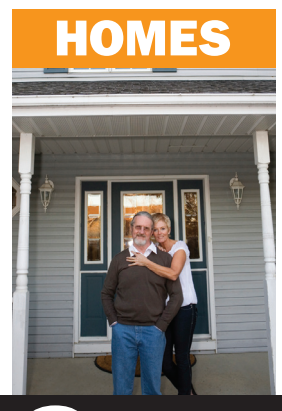
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General Help

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3 BR 1305 S Boots St; $550/mo; tenant pays all utilities

3 BR 1723 W 4th St $600/mo; tenant pays all utilities

3 BR 1625 W Euclid Ave; $600/mo tenant pays all utilities

3 BR 501 W 1st St $500/mo; tenant pays all utilities

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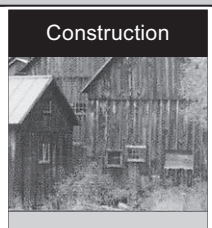
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